




Business News

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Toxic trade

Illicit destruction of Africa's forests and contamination of the US market.



A new report from the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) – Toxic Trade: Forest Crime in Gabon and the Republic of Congo and the Contamination of the US Market – documents how illegally extracted African timber emerges as “eco-friendly”-marketed products in America, deceiving unsuspecting US consumers. During a 4-year undercover investigation, EIA uncovered the inner workings of one of Africa’s most influential timber conglomerates – the “Dejia Group” – controlled by Chinese mogul Xu Gong De. The report exposes a multitude of crimes committed in the forests of the Congo Basin, and the network of corrupt officials who enable illegalities and criminal activity.

According to EIA findings, the Dejia Group – which controls over 1.5 million hectares of forest in Gabon and the Republic of Congo – obtained vast areas of forest through corrupt means; massively overharvested concessions; exported US \$80 million worth of logs in breach of

national law over a four year period; and evaded several millions of dollars in taxes each year.

To make this corrupt business model work and ensure ongoing impunity, the Group relies on well-placed political connections, such as Mr. Jean Ping, who helped Dejia establish its strong foothold in the region, and, in turn, allegedly had his Gabon presidential bid significantly funded by Dejia affiliates; and also bribes, often to high-level government officials. One of the directors of a Dejia Group affiliate in the Republic of Congo told EIA investigators that a “suitcase full of cash” sent to the former Congolese minister of Forest Economy, Mr. Henry Djombo, ensured they would face no obstacles.

“Gabon recently has begun to crack down on illegal actors, but much remains to be done. We urge the Republic of Congo to also hold these companies accountable; and both countries to tackle the endemic corruption that undermines domestic industry development and enables rampant

destruction of their forests,” said Lisa Handy, Director of EIA’s Forest Campaign.

At least one client of the Dejia Group in the US, Evergreen Hardwood Inc., has helped insert the illegal timber into the US supply chain. Evergreen representative Mr. Jim Green explained to EIA undercover investigators: “Everyone needs to be greased to make things work. I don’t care, I understand that. That’s how it works. I do that. I do that from here.” Green also said, “I’m not worried that you’re stealing from a national park. I don’t care. I just need to have documentation in case somebody accuses me and wants to look.”

Evergreen has imported thousands of tons of Dejia Group’s timber products for more than 10 years, reselling to major US manufacturers, including the Oregon-based company Roseburg. Dozens of family-owned lumberyards and hardware chains such as Menards and Home Depot have sold Roseburg’s products containing this African timber.

“The Dejia-Evergreen case demonstrates the need for US authorities to routinely check due diligence systems, and to vigorously enforce the Lacey Act,” Handy stated. “Otherwise, illegal timber will continue to flow into the US, and American consumers will remain unwitting supporters of devastating forest crime.”

The Dejia Group has also exported its products to other countries where the importation of illegally sourced timber is a crime, including France, Belgium, Italy, Spain and Greece.

Gabon and the Republic of Congo are two of the largest timber producers in Africa. Together, they account for about 60% of the logging concession area in the Congo Basin, and export roughly 80% of all timber produced on the continent. Illegal and unsustainable logging has profound impacts on habitats that are indispensable for the survival of endangered species, including African forest elephants and apes.

Truck body conversion brings new hope



L to R: Kanu Managing Director, Mike Pienaar, Pumla Mtini and Kanu General Manager, Wynand Moller.

WHEN a street vendor lost almost her entire livelihood due to burglary and theft, Kanu Commercial Body Construction in Port Elizabeth helped her to get back on her feet - by upgrading her informal “shack-shop” to a fully functional fit-for-purpose kiosk.

Pumla Mtini, 69, had been operating a small spaza shop across the road from Kanu in Markman Township, Port Elizabeth, for several years. She started her shop to supplement her pension income after retiring from a big retailer, where she worked in the bakery.

However, during the years thieves often targeted the pensioner’s shop. “They had been stealing from day one. I had to replace stoves, groceries and gas cylinders over the years. But earlier this year, the thieves took the roof off my shop and stole almost everything,” said Mtini.

Living up to their company slogan, delivering creative solutions, the staff of Kanu came up with a plan to create a sustainable, secure kiosk from an obsolete truck van body.

“Our employees who are daily customers of Pumla, appealed to Kanu management for assistance,” said Kanu General Manager:

Continued on P2



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Truck body conversion brings new hope

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Manufacturing and Engineering, Wynand Moller.

Since Kanu did not have an on-site canteen service for its employees at the time, assisting Mtini was a mutually beneficial move for the Kanu employees as

well as the dedicated and hard-working shop owner.

Mtini's self-contained kiosk is now inside the premises of Kanu, where the security services can keep a watchful eye over her new shop.

City Meets Business Conference

Speech by Cape Town's Executive Mayor Dan Plato

THE theme this year is "Leadership through action: Transforming the past and creating a future."

Forums such as this one are integral in helping governments and business work together to build our economy.

As you may know, Cape Town recently received the distinction of being named the leading digital city on the continent, employing 40 000 people in the tech sector, the most tech-related jobs. This was mentioned in the CCID's State of Cape Town report. This number is more than Johannesburg, Lagos and Nairobi, combined and is something we are very proud of. Cape Town received this accolade because it offers innovation, with the necessary infrastructure and tools to grow as a tech hub. We received it because Cape Town works hard to ensure it moves forward and can help to uplift more people through creating an environment in which work opportunities are created. We are a city that is moving forward into innovation and the modern world.

More than half of the tech companies in the province, are based in Cape Town. We also have the lowest unemployment in the country, and this is because we create the environment in which

job creation can take place. We will continue to work harder to make sure that more people have access to employment opportunities. Much of the City and its partners' hard work is highlighted in the same report I mentioned earlier, the 2018 State of Cape Town Central Report. Among the successes, Cape Town's economic centre, contributes nearly three quarters of the GDP in the Western Cape. With nearly R5 billion in foreign direct investment, numerous international businesses have set up shop in Cape Town.

We are thankful for the hard work done by the officials in our Enterprise and Investment Department as well as investment agency WESGRO, entities like Cape Town Tourism, and forums such as this one where ideas for growth can be shared and discussed.

"These initiatives created 4 764 jobs and provided skills training to 2 109 individuals during the City's past financial year (ending in June 2019)."

With this mission of creating the right conditions for employment, it must be noted that for the 2018/19 financial year, R2,7 billion worth of investment was facilitated by the City's Strategic



Cape Town's Executive Mayor Dan Plato.

Business Partners and Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) companies that are supported by the City to grow investment, job creation and skills development.

These initiatives created 4 764 jobs and provided skills training to 2 109 individuals during the City's past financial year (ending in June 2019).

While government

opportunities.

Entrepreneurs are a vital part of our economy and earlier this month, the City Business Hub was launched in the Strand Street Concourse, with the aim of assisting budding business people to take their projects to the next level.

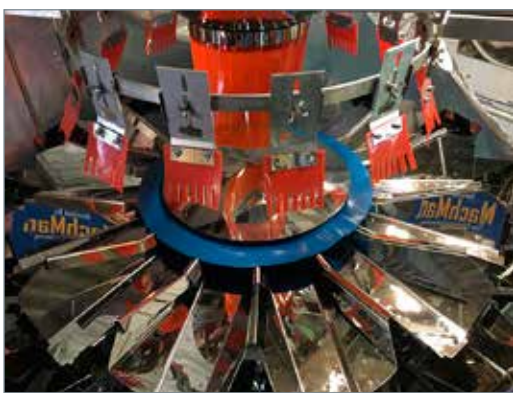
The Business Hub Helpdesk resolved 95% of the 1 049 service requests from small, medium and micro-enterprises (SMMEs) and entrepreneurs during the previous financial year. Having its new home in the Concourse, makes it more accessible to SMMEs and entrepreneurs. This walk-in centre will also enhance the City's One Stop Shop offering by expanding the services available and reducing administrative barriers. Through this cen-

tre, we want to contribute towards a business friendly environment where we will reduce barriers and other red tape measures.

With all the successes of investment and job creation, it is important that we bear in mind that our approach to business must also include a focus on resilience and using resources efficiently.

With the attractiveness of Cape Town as a business and urban living centre drawing in more people to live and work here, our biggest challenge remains providing housing to an expanding number of residents. Keeping these successes in mind, we realise that more needs to be done to improve the lives of our residents and help them access opportunity.

Asset management and maintenance made easy



THE importance of scheduled and regular machine maintenance in any processing or production company cannot be overemphasised. Why most of pro-

duction, maintenance or workshop managers subscribe to this credo for their personal assets like vehicles, but neglect the same best practice principles

when it comes to production assets (plant and machinery), is a mystery!

As the success of a production facility depends on the reliability of productive assets, proper maintenance and care for the plant and machines would seem to be a no brainer.

The benefits of implementing proper systems for equipment and machinery care are:

- Production reliability
- Meeting of production targets
- Less downtime

caused by breakdowns

- Scheduled/planned breaks in production
- Planned and budgeted capex through management of equipment cycles.
- Increased equipment life span.
- Data keeping on equipment ensuring timeous sourcing and availability
- Optimising huge investments in physical production assets
- Spare parts management

Outsourcing this vital activity can be the answer and MachMan is an engineering company based in Cape Town that provides comprehensive maintenance services on a retainer basis. Its clients include well-known companies dominant in the food & beverage and packaging industries. Comprehensive workshop facilities and skilled technicians enable MachMan to rapidly manufacture parts and spares to solve client breakdown emergencies. An additional benefit is the success rate achieved in client

audits when carried out by major retailers, where comprehensive maintenance programmes are in place with MachMan.

Employees responsible for plant maintenance are often distracted by the pressures of production schedules, breakdowns and crisis management, making it too easy and tempting to postpone scheduled maintenance. Outsourcing to MachMan eliminates these types of situations by placing the responsibility in skilled hands, controlled by a strict pro-

gramme schedule.

Client enquiries initiate the service, beginning with a detailed assessment by skilled technicians to enable accurate calculation of required maintenance frequency and duration on the plant and equipment. Recommendations are then made to enable companies to optimise production asset productivity and planning of maintenance schedules – convenient and without interrupting production - are done before the maintenance programme is implemented. Thereafter, regular feedback is given to the client and data collected on machinery and equipment is freely available to the client.

When production assets invariably reach the end of their lives, MachMan will assist in scheduled and budgeted capex that result in planned availability and timeous commissioning of replacement plant.

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HCI wins Lotto

CAPE TOWN-based empowerment giant Hosken Consolidated Investments (HCI) – which already holds valuable casino and gaming assets – looks set to win considerable influence at national lottery level.

HCI controls casinos like SunCoast in Durban, Montecasino and Gold ReefCity in Johannesburg as well as holding influence at the Grand West casino in Cape Town. The group also owns sprawling limited payout machine operations and electronic bingo outlets.

HCI's involvement in the national lottery harks back to 2015 when it funded new lottery operator Ithuba to the tune of more than R340 million. Ithuba, readers may remember faced a legal challenge by the then lottery operator Gidani, and was consequently struggling to secure funding from banks.

The story is somewhat convoluted – but essentially HCI objected to Ithuba paying back all of its debt (including interest) in late September 2016. HCI argued the funding contract did not allow for the early repayment of loans with court papers reflecting financial director Kevin Govender's views that the empowerment group did not look to make short term investments – and that, in general, investments were made for five years or longer. "In the present case it was expected that the investment would run for a number of years, most probably for the entire duration of the new (national lottery) licence."

HCI's latest annual report showed that the loan to Ithuba was unsecured and was to be repaid in instalments of R50 million each on 29 April 2021, 29 April 2022 and 29 April 2023.

It bore interest at a rate of 38.99% (calculated as a 25% nominal annual interest rate compounded monthly, accrued daily and grossed up at the income tax rate of 28% applicable to companies).

The dispute has raged for years, but eventually it was decided to take the matter to arbitration.

The arbitration process ruled at the end of July...very much in the favour of HCI.

The arbitrators ruled that HCI loan had not been re-paid and stipulated settlement should now be undertaken via the originally envisaged re-payment terms (with interest). What's more HCI were given management oversight and will also receive a management fee of 1%

the national lottery's monthly gross revenues.

It seems the arbitration process did not sit well with some parties with HCI reporting a nasty protest outside its offices in Cape Town last month.

In a statement HCI said it appreciated the frustration felt by those vested in the arbitration case. "The fact remains, however, that it is the unanimous view of all three arbitrators (all retired High Court Judges) that HCI was entirely within its rights

to exercise its step in rights when it did and to advance various other financial claims against Ithuba and others."

HCI added that the arbitrators expressly rejected all arguments put forward by Ithuba in defence - which they found were completely without any merit.

"The protest action, follows this decision, and is yet another effort made to resist and frustrate the lawful claims of HCI. The time has come for Ithuba, and the others, to do the right

thing: respect the decision of the arbitrators and stop their wrongful and unlawful conduct."

HCI further pointed out that it had put up the majority of the money needed to set up the business of Ithuba – "at the time not a single bank or funder was prepared to do so and take the risk in the face of an application by Gidani to set aside the licence awarded by the Minister in favour of Ithuba."

HCI argued that Ithuba would unquestionably have lost that



licence if HCI had not rescued it.

HCI urged Ithuba and its consultants to do the right thing. "Comply with the award. The award is final and

binding on all the parties and puts an end to all disputes. The time has come to get on with running of the national lottery to benefit good causes."

Flooring the competition

ESTABLISHED in 2014, Cape Industrial Flooring (CIF) enjoys a prominent position in the country's flooring industry, differentiating itself not only as installers, but also as manufacturers of its entire line of quality flooring products.

By attending various exhibitions and training facilities around the world on a yearly

basis, managing director and owner of CIF, Bruce Meyer is able to explore new flooring technologies and provide clients with the most up to date flooring applications. This hands-on approach has contributed to the company's exceptional growth, customer loyalty and customer satisfaction.

Irrespective of in-

dustrial, commercial or residential applications, its commitment to the highest standards of service delivery, extended guarantees on all applications and exceptional after sales support, has resulted in contracts with well-known names such as Tiger Brands, KFC, Quantum Foods and MARS consumer brands amongst others.

While based in the Western Cape, CIF serves clients and customers throughout the Republic with product lines including Industrial Flake Flooring Systems, polyurethane screeds ranging from 3 - 10mm, epoxy flooring systems, Terrazzo flooring systems and cementitious applications.

Its Brackenfell manufacturing facility

incorporates a state-of-the-art showroom, open to all clients, architects and applicators where an applications advisor is on hand to advise and assist with any flooring queries and specifications.

CIF offers franchise opportunities nationwide, providing both in-house and field training on the full spectrum of elements

that make for a successful flooring business. CIF has approved flooring applicators nationwide that have received the necessary in-house training and certification from the company.

For more information visit www.capeindustrialflooring.co.za, or its premises at 60C Gemini Street, Brackenfell, 7560.

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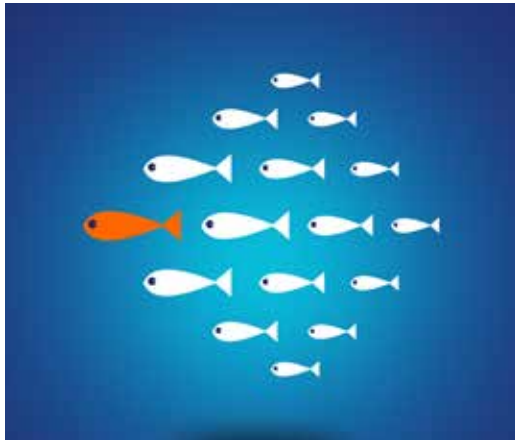


Great hakespectations

CAPE TOWN's big hake fishing companies look set for large profit landings after encouraging catches in the first half of this year.

In a trading statement released last month Sea Harvest – which recently acquired Viking Fishing – predicted that in the six months to end June it would generate earnings that were between 48% and 59% better than the corresponding period in 2018.

That means Sea Harvest – which read-



ers might also remember has branched into the diary business via the acquisition of Ladi-

smith cheese – should post interim profits of between R165 million and R177 million.

Consumer brands conglomerate AVI also reported last month that its fishing subsidiary Irvin & Johnson (I&J) – which dominates the local frozen hake segment along with Sea Harvest – would show an improved result for the year to end June.

This is encouraging since AVI reported that in the six months to end June I&J had seen a 2% decline in turnover to R1.17 billion and a 18% drop in profits to R146 million.

Engines to power expansion projects at GPHA

A pair of Cummins QSK95 engines are helping power expansion projects at the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority (GPHA). GPHA is the national port authority of Ghana, responsible for the governance, maintenance, and operation of the country's ports. To increase its handling capacity, a major expansion and infrastructure upgrade will require bigger vessels and higher capacity engines.

The addition of

three RAstar 3300 series tugs is currently on order, and will be delivered end 2019. The Turkey-based Torgem Shipyard is constructing the new ship-docking tugs. Torgem Shipyard has been at the forefront of modern ship construction, serving as the construction site for over 100 new building projects. The facility is equipped to handle the building, repair, maintenance, and conversion of a wide range of vessels, including chemical tankers, cargo ships, tugboats

and mega-yachts.

Each of the new tugs will be powered by a pair of Cummins QSK95 engines. Once built, the three custom-designed tugs will enter service with the GPHA on the west coast of Africa, where shipping volumes are increasing, creating a requirement for powerful modern tugboats. They will be equipped to fulfil a multitude of tasks for the GPHA, including but not limited to ship-assist, fire-fighting, and pollution response.

Letting off steam

FOR the past 15 years Atlantic Steam Engineering under the guidance of company founder Robert Rabie, has been providing industry with precision engineering services principally to customers that utilize steam in their production processes.

Atlantic Steam's core services include refurbishment and maintenance of all types of boilers and related ancillary equipment including steam lines, valves and steam traps, ensuring equipment is restored to full OEM specifications at a fraction of the cost of replacement.

Its reputation for customer service, equipment performance, reliability and on-time and on-budget approach has led to an expansion in business – so much so that the company has recently relocated to much larger premises, from its original home in Brackenfell to a modern 480 m² factory in Fisantekraal to cope with customer demand.

"Our customer base is across a variety of steam using industries – principally food and beverage and packaging manufacturers with a small amount from the oil & gas and marine sectors" explained Rabie, who guides a team of ten specialised technicians and machine operators in the refurbishment process.

"Steam has very ero-



Precision engineering in the valve refurbishment process.

sive and abrasive properties particularly on mild carbon steel, cast iron and other surfaces, leading to pitting and degrading of component strength and wear on close fitting parts. This is especially so with control valves which periodically require the replacement / remanufacture of valve seats, glands, spindles and flange resurfacing to restore the component to its original specification and thus the integrity of the whole steam system.

"We are able to precision manufacture any internal component, irrespective of origin, assemble and pressure test to OEM specifications and return as good as new to the customer at about 50% of the cost of the new component.

"We keep a full range of ferrous and non-ferrous materials in stock and if we are unsure of the material specification of a component, it

is sent away to a local materials testing laboratory for evaluation to ensure the correct grade of material is used in its remanufacture" said Rabie.

In addition to precision machine tools, Atlantic Steam has sand blasting and pressure testing equipment allowing the testing of components up to 400 bars.

While the majority of valves and steam traps are supplied by customers for refurbishment, Atlantic Steam refurbish discarded equipment and resell with a performance warranty as good as the OEM.

Atlantic Steam complies with all customer requirements, including legal and the organizations quality management systems.

On site boiler maintenance usually follows scheduled seasonal shutdowns but the Atlantic Steam team is available 24/7 to cope with unexpected break-

downs.

"The Christmas shutdown period is usually the most hectic for us as boiler and ancillary component maintenance has to be completed within a very tight time frame. Our ability to meet customer's deadlines with quality workmanship is the cornerstone of our reputation."

And it's not just serving customers in the immediate vicinity; a specialised team recently completed a boiler maintenance project in Tanzania for a major sugar producer.

"In order to keep our focus, we continually review and monitor the way we work, which includes:

- Communicating and obtaining buy-in from our staff
- Following a formal continual improvement process
- Actively improving the level of customer satisfaction
- Provide appropriate training programmes to keep staff well equipped to do their tasks.

"Delivering quality work and exceptional customer service is what differentiates us in this high competitive sector, and our commitment to these values is certainly appreciated by our loyal customer base" he concluded.

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Feather in its KAP

IT'S been a really tough grind for most industrial companies in SA over the past five years - but Stellenbosch-headquartered KAP Industrial is still pressing ahead with various new capacity expansion projects and technology investments. Many of these will be commissioned during financial 2020, and could be complemented by further capacity expansion opportunities to grow profits.

KAP has confirmed acquisition opportunities that meet the group's strategic requirements and create shareholder value remain a key element of the growth objectives of management. CEO Gary Chaplin noted: "It is anticipated that the current distressed economic environment will yield increased opportunities in this regard."

But it's not like KAP has stood still fearfully while the local economy fizzled out. Chaplin pointed out that in previous financial years, the group embarked on a number of significant expansion projects at its operations and concluded

a number of acquisitions - resulting in the investment of R7.8 billion over the 24 months to 30 June 2018.

The group has also honed operations, selling the Glodina textile business, a division of KAP's Vitafoam subsidiary for over R100m in September last year.

In the past financial year (to end June 2019) KAP's replacement capital expenditure continued confidently - topping a not insubstantial R811 million (net of proceeds on disposal, insurance proceeds and government grants. On top of that expansion capital expenditure of R420 million was invested in the group's asset base to drive growth and efficiency benefits. Chaplin indicated that capital expenditure was mainly directed towards logistics long-haul vehicles and passenger transport assets in the Unitrans stable.

Fortunately for KAP the array of industrial operations generate strong cash flows, and in the past year new debt was whittled down by more than R1.2 billion

to under R4.5 billion with the gearing ratio easing markedly to 35% (previously a tighter 45%).

In terms of profit performance, KAP saw revenue from continuing operations increasing a sprightly 12% to R25.6 billion. But the tougher trading conditions pressed operating profit down 13% to around R2.5 billion.

The star performer was the Contractual Logistics - Africa segment, which managed to boost revenue to over R2 billion (last year: R1.8 billion) and operating profit to R283 million (R268 million).

Contractual Logistics' operations in non-South African territories comprise mainly of activities in the petrochemical and agricultural sectors with smaller operations in mining and cement in southern and east African countries.

Chaplin said the division performed well for the year, supported by stable volumes at its major operations and good operational execution.

He said that with a significant number of

contracts at or nearing renewal stage, the division is focused on contract retention, volume growth, technology investments and efficiency improvements in an increasingly competitive environment.

Chaplin also did not have to lose much sleep over the performance of KAP's Integrated Bedding division with revenue and operating profit higher at R1.55 billion and R239 million respectively (FY18: R224 million).

The Integrated Bedding division managed to overcome the depressed retail environment by continuing to implement its strategy of technology investments to reduce its cost of manufacture, develop its brands and grow market share.

Chaplin said that the recent acquisition of Support-a-Paedic helped the division continue to grow its market share and brand equity.

He said the mattress manufacturing and process automation investments associated with the R250 million integrated bedding plant

would be completed before the 2019 peak trading period. This would facilitate production efficiencies at higher production volumes.

KAP's automotive segment also revved revenue and profits - which accelerated to R2.2 billion and R266 million respectively.

Chaplin said an 11% increase in industry new vehicle assembly volumes supported the revenue, volume and profit growth of the division.

Specifically he mentioned the model replacements of the VW Polo and the BMW X3 introduced during the previous financial year was ramped up as planned.

The division also benefited from efficiency improvement projects and new technologies associated with the new model introductions during the second half of the year.

Chaplin said the extension of the Automotive Production and Development Programme (APDP) to 2035 provided much-needed clarity and stability to the automotive sector. "We

believe this will lead to growth opportunities for the division."

He did warn, however, that production disruptions associated with the introduction of a replacement models were expected during the next financial year.

KAP's integrated timber segment - which includes PG Bison - pushed up revenue to over R4 billion (previously R3.6 billion) but operating profit was slightly down at R806 million.

This division comprises forestry, sawmilling, pole manufacture, panel manufacture and upgrading operations.

Chaplin said the division's panel products operations performed well for the year - showing volume, revenue and operating profit growth. "It continued to pursue its strategy of technology investments to reduce its cost of manufacture, increase the proportion of value-added products and grow market share."

He said the division discontinued the sale and distribution of solid surfacing and high-pressure laminate prod-

ucts during the year in order to focus on its own manufactured products.

Chaplin said the resin operation performed well for the year with increased volume and improved sales mix.

But he pointed out that the division's forestry; sawmilling and pole operations in the southern Cape were significantly impacted by the operational effects of the extensive fires experienced in the region during 2017 and 2018. This had a R68 million negative effects on the division's operating results compared to the prior year.

Chaplin said the timber segment had initiated new projects to expand particleboard capacity and improve efficiencies at both its plants.

An additional MFB (melamine-faced board) upgrading press has also been commissioned.

Chaplin said the combined cost of these investments would top R200 million, the majority of which would be incurred in the next financial year.

Hikes further increase viability of renewable energy

ELECTRICITY tariffs for municipalities in South Africa increased by an average of 13.07% on the 1st of July, continuing the trend of above-inflation annual price increases of grid-based power.

Considering this, as well as the future increases that the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (Nersa) has already approved, finding solutions to become less reliant on the national power grid is becoming crucial for businesses.

This is according to Henri van Eetveldt, Senior Consultant - Solar PV and Energy Storage at Energy Partners Solar - a division of Energy Partners and part of the PSG group of companies - who says that absorbing operating costs becomes exceedingly difficult with each new tariff increase from Eskom.

He adds that in order to remain competitive over the coming years, all South African businesses should have long-term sustainability strategies that include grid-tied renewable energy generation. "We would strongly recommend all companies to consider a grid-tied solar photovoltaic (PV) system to mitigate the impact of the potentially massive tariff increases over the coming years. The payback period for a

PV system (which can be installed within three-to-six months) is within a span of three to five years.

"In addition, there are also service providers that can offer renewable energy on

the basis of a power purchase agreement (PPA), which means that businesses can gain access to cost-efficient renewable energy without any initial capital outlay."

Van Eetveldt says

that companies who choose to make solar energy a part of their operation, whether it is through a PPA or acquiring their own infrastructure, place themselves in a much better position to control their costs.

"Instead of being bound to a state entity that the business has no control over, privately-generated renewable energy enables an organisation to ensure their energy

costs remain stable over the long term."

He emphasises that businesses can no longer remain indecisive about making private energy generation an integral part of their business strategies for

the coming years. "This month's tariff increase is just the latest in a long list of indications that should motivate businesses everywhere to take greater control of their energy supply," van Eetveldt concludes.

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Meeting marine diesel emission standards

The Cummins solution.

THE international shipping industry is facing an increasingly tight regulatory environment, especially in terms of limits imposed upon emissions to air.

And with the entry into force of the International Marine Organization's (IMO) NOx Tier III limits on January 1st 2016, part of MARPOL Annex VI, the regulations governing marine emissions became

significantly tougher.

Emissions from diesel exhaust include harmful:

- Particulate Matter (PM)
- Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx)
- Oxides of Sulphur (SOx)
- Hydrocarbons (HC)
- Carbon Monoxide (CO)

IMO Tier III levels are in force (effect

date January 1, 2016) in NOx Emission Control Areas (NECAs), currently in waters 200 nautical miles from the North American and US Caribbean shores. Emissions from ships in EU waters are to some extent limited by regional and global regulations as EU and its Member States have a strong preference for a global approach led by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). NOx

Emission control area (NECAs) will increase in future therefore there is no one effect date for IMO Tier III globally.

The Tier III controls apply only to the specified ships while operating in Emission Control Areas (ECA) established to limit NOx emissions, outside such areas the Tier II controls apply.

Cummins will offer an IMO tier III solution as scheme A certification but so far the focus is on HHP products mainly QSK 60, 38 and 19. QSK60 (After treatment system delivered 2018), QSK38 (delivered late 2018), QSK19 (delivered June 2019).

The Tier III controls apply only to specific ship types while operating in Emission Control Areas (ECA) established to limit NOx emissions: outside such areas the Tier II controls apply.

Cummins IMO III solution - Selective Catalytic Reduction - SCR

SCR is a technology that injects urea into the exhaust stream where a catalyst helps to convert oxides of nitrogen into the harmless components of Nitrogen, Carbon dioxide and water vapour.

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offering IMO3 certified system, sold, serviced and supported by Global Cummins network.

- Available with IACS class society approvals.
- Optimized engine calibration for SCR performance.
- Available for new installations and retrofits.
- One after treatment per engine.
- TCP Modbus interface available to display SCR attributes on vessel systems.
- Offered as 24V DC or 230V AC configurations.
- Operates on

Cummins standard fuel and lube oil specification.

- Serviceable catalyst with replacement designed to match engine life to overhaul.
- Maintenance intervals aligned with the engine for minimal planned downtime.
- No new diagnostic tools required for service or maintenance.
- The system is designed to run anytime the engine is operating.
- DEF dosing to the system can be paused when operating in Non-ECA zones. Engine will remain compliant

to IMO Tier II.

- SCR system has minimal impact on backpressure considerations for exhaust plumbing.
- Flexible installation with eight configurations including vertical set up.
- World class competitive DEF consumption of 4 to 5% of diesel fuel consumption.
- Air assisted dosing for optimal SCR performance.
- After treatment display panel enables quick diagnostics and easy to understand system performance attributes.
- Operates with 32.5% or 40% DEF.



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CorrISA Cape Region - Mini Expo - invitation

THE CorrISA Cape Region Mini Expo is taking place on Thursday 19 September 2019. This will be the third CorrISA Cape Region Mini Expo and takes the form of companies showing what they have to offer at various stands.

Participating in the Expo is free for attendees and for exhibitors the price is a nominal R500.

Date: Thursday 19 September

Time: 14h00 to 17h00

Venue: Rand-Air: 41 Marconi Rd, Montague Gardens, Cape Town, 021 551 4760

The winner of best stand last year was Dryforce - there will be another competition this year.

Enquiries & RSVP to:
Cindy Ross: capeminiexpo@corrisa.org.za
083 643 9067

Terrasan can do

PLATTEKLOOF-based TerraSan fishing group – which made headline in 2017 when it acquired Saldanha Group’s canning operations – appears to be coping with the drastically lower pilchard quota.

CBN has already reported how fishing giant Oceana – which owns the Lucky Star brand – had adapted its pilchard processing model to incorporate the importation of the bulk of the fish stock.

TerraSan – which CBN estimates could turnover between R1bn and R1.2bn – is considerably smaller than Oceana.

CBN was hoping to report on TerraSan’s annual performance, which was expected around mid-2019 after the interim report was issued in December 2018.

Unfortunately that report was not available on TerraSan’s website at the time of going to press.

But in his interim report TerraSan executive chairman Mohammed Karaan said the group was grateful for the contribution of Saldanha Protein. “All

indications are there that they will meet the operational targets set by the board this year.”

He added that the effect of Saldanha Protein on the group’s results would become more pronounced over the next few years as the debt was repaid.

TerraSan reportedly paid over R400 million for Saldanha – a price tag that at the time raised some eyebrows in the fishing community.

What the interim report does disclose is the funding arrangements for the acquired Saldanha assets. To fund the purchase, TerraSan issued 3.2 million new shares to well-known agri-business investor Agri-Vie (Fund II) at R37.50/share to raise R120 million. The group also incurred new debt in the form of a term loan of R250 million.

This was done through the refinancing of intergroup debt, and preference share funding of R100 million both from ABSA Bank.

In its interim period, TerraSan fared reasonably well. Group revenue – with the Saldanha assets on-board

– increased by 156% to R453.6 million with gross profits 91% higher at R74.1m million. Adjusted bottom line profit, however, was up just 3% to R23.5 million and earnings a share (which additional shares in issue) were down 14% at 117c/share.

Karaan reminded that Saldanha Protein was a high volume/lower margin business. He said TerraSan also saw lower rope yields in its Blue Ocean Mussels division.

The key figure was that cash generated from operations was negative R64.8 million – a dramatic swing from the R3.7 million inflows the previous interim period.

Karaan, however did point out that Terrasan’s cash conversion ratio was traditionally low during the first half of the year because of the annual fishing cycle that required substantial investments in working capital.

Interestingly, a condition for the approval of the Saldanha Protein transaction (by the Competition Commission) required TerraSan to exit from the

Oranjevis Joint Venture.

So in early 2018 TerraSan Pelagic Fishery sold its share in Sea Pride Processors and its interest in the Oranjevis Joint Venture to an unnamed third party. Proceeds from the deal are expected to flow in over the next five to seven years.

Saldanha Protein adds six pelagic fishing vessels as well as 3.45% of the total allowable catch (TAC) for pilchards and 8.80% of the TAC for anchovy.

TerraSan indicated that vessels carried a replacement value of around R150m with the steel hull vessels holding a capacity of about 230 tons for industrial fish and 120 tons for pilchards. The wooden hull vessels have a capacity for approximately 150 tons of industrial fish.

Saldanha Protein also has a fishmeal and fish oil processing facility and a pilchard cannery situated in St Helena Bay. The fish oil facility can process up to 1 200 tons of industrial raw fish per day while the cannery can process up to 200 tons of raw pilchards per day.



Saldanha Proteins appears to have performed admirably in the financial year to end June 2018. Revenue increased by 44% to R366.5 million, and gross profit was 136% higher at R52.2 million with profit after tax up 166% to R32.3 million.

But the West Point Fishing subsidiary could be in for tougher times. TerraSan noted that in order to mitigate the steady reduction in the pilchard TAC over the past years and obtain sufficient stocks to supply the market, the division sources frozen pilchard cutlets from Morocco.

At the end of June

2018, West Point Processors produced 234 745 (2017: 125 853) shrinks of pilchards from local fish and over 1.6 million shrinks from imported cutlets.

TerraSan reported that the profitability in the canned fish division has remained stable.

Overall, Karaan said TerraSan was pleased with the integration of Saldanha Protein into the group – especially the resulting cost savings from the sharing of infrastructure and management skills at TerraSan Pelagic Fishery.

He said management was considering the outsourcing of the boiler and steam

supply at the processing factory from 2019. “This could yield substantial environmental improvements due to a proposed switch from coal to wood biomass as the main energy source.”

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is also currently underway at the West Point Processing Plant which seeks to obtain approval to increase fishmeal production capacity from its current level of 50 tons per hour to a maximum of 100 tons per hour.

TerraSan reckons the EIA process may take 16 months to complete.

Expensive saga of suspended City transport boss finally ends

THE Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry is pleased that the long and expensive saga of the suspended City transport boss, Melissa Whitehead, has come to an end but it leaves many unanswered questions.

Ms Whitehead was suspended on full pay (more than R3m a year) in January last year for disciplinary hearings after allegations of irregularities concerning

three tenders by her department.

The first tender involved the purchase of electric busses from China which have never been used and are now in storage.

The second involved the purchase of Volvo bus chassis for MyCiti which are also in storage.

The third tender concerned proposals for the redevelopment of sections of the Fore-

shore and the completion of the Foreshore freeway. The City received more than six tenders from architects and planners but the whole project was cancelled after allegations of irregularities. The tendering firms had spent millions of rands preparing their proposals and are now threatening legal action against the City.

Mr Jacques Moolman, Deputy President

of the Chamber, said that after three failures by one City Council department he would have expected the head of the department to be held accountable.

“This should never have been about discipline but about executive responsibility. There were three major failures in her department and they all happened on her watch. That should have been enough.”

Mr Moolman pointed out that the labour laws on disciplinary hearings were designed to protect vulnerable workers and not bosses earning R3m a year.

“The Chamber has pointed out before that the City’s executive directors earn large salaries that are well above market rates yet they don’t seem to accept responsibility when things go wrong in their departments.

“Something is fundamentally wrong and the problem is not unique to the City but to the whole public service. This is a problem that requires urgent attention because the country cannot afford to pay people to sit at home. Taxpayers and ratepayers have every right to question the way their money is being used.”

He pointed out that the wastage of public

funds went well beyond salaries. “In this case how much has been spent on forensic reports, legal advice and disciplinary hearings? How much damage has been done to the morale in her former department? How much will it cost to settle the disputes over the electric busses, the Volvo bus chassis and the aborted Foreshore development proposals? We need answers.”

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Ford wins awards

FORD's Struandale Engine Plant in Port Elizabeth has earned two category wins and a merit award at the annual Exporters Eastern Cape awards ceremony.

The Exporter of the Year gala banquet, which was held at The Boardwalk Convention Centre on Friday 16 August, saw Ford receive the coveted IDC Job Creation Award for the exporter that created the most sustainable jobs within their business in the last financial year.

Additionally, the Struandale Engine Plant earned the SJM Flex Environmental Award for excellence in environmental management.

The local team also walked away with a Merit Award in the 'Best Exporter OEM' category for the automotive sector, emphasizing the significant role Ford's Port Elizabeth operations play in the growth and prosperity of the Eastern Cape economy.

"The Exporter of the Year awards recognise the outstanding work our team has done to achieve volume growth and introduce a second diesel engine programme in a highly competitive global automotive market, as well as a domestic economic environment that remains under pressure," says John Cameron, Plant Man-

ager of the Struandale Engine Plant.

Production of the advanced, new-generation 2.0-litre Bi-Turbo and Single Turbo engines commenced at the end of 2018, and power selected Ford Ranger, Ranger Raptor and Everest models that are assembled in Silverton, Pretoria, for local and export markets. They are produced alongside the current 2.2 and 3.2-litre Duratorq TDCi engines and machined components that are used for local assembly and supplied to export customers around the world.

"Accompanying the increases in our production capacity is a pleasing upward trend



Pictured L to R: Wongeka Kalazani (Industrial Development Corporation), Hyron Muniz and Michael Verwant (Ford Struandale Engine Plant), and Quintin Levey (Chairman, Exporters Eastern Cape).

of creating new employment opportunities at the plant and our growing network

of local suppliers," Cameron adds. "This is supported by our ongoing commitment to

investing in our people through training and skills development, extending our success-

ful Learnership programme to benefit hundreds of local youth, as well as supporting the surrounding communities through numerous outreach initiatives."

Ford continues to invest in technologies and systems that enhance operating efficiencies and minimise its impact on the environment, resulting in noteworthy improvements in electricity and water consumption over the past five years. Recycling initiatives have also been expanded to cut the amount of waste that ends up in landfills, while 100 indigenous trees were planted at the Struandale site to reduce the carbon footprint.

Violence and harassment in the workplace: the latest from the ILO

By Fiona Leppan and Kgodisho Phashe from Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr.

ON 21 June 2019, the International Labour Conference (ILO) in Geneva, adopted a new Convention and Recommendation titled the "Convention Concerning the Elimination of Violence and Harassment in the World of Work" (the Convention) which seeks to combat and eradicate workplace violence and sexual harassment alongside other workplace issues.

There has been, in the recent years, a growing realisation and appreciation of the prevalence and the devastating effects of sexual harassment in the workplace, both in South Africa and in international jurisdictions. This was highlighted by the "MeToo" movement, where shocking discoveries

and revelations were made, regarding the number of persons that were sexually harassed (especially by their employers or by persons in positions of power over them). This movement brought awareness to this pandemic. This led the ILO to adopt its first global convention to combat violence and harassment in the workplace.

Conventions are legally binding international instruments, which mean that member states have a responsibility to promote a general environment of zero tolerance. South Africa is a signatory to such conventions and is obliged to ensure that there are adequate laws giving effect to the provisions of the convention. Article 6 of the Convention requires that each member state must adopt laws, regulations and policies ensuring the right to equality and non-discrimina-



tion in employment and in occupation.

SA 114 (ECG) the High Court stated that harassment creates an offensive and very often intimidating work environment and is "the most heinous mis-

conduct that plagues the workplace". In Media 24 and Another v Grobler (2005) 3 All SA 297 (SCA), the Supreme Court of Appeal ruled that the employer's duty of care cannot be confined to an obli-

gation to take reasonable steps to protect employees from physical harm, it must also in appropriate circumstances include a duty to protect employees from psychological harm that is a result of

sexual harassment.

What does all this mean for an employer in South Africa? An employer must ensure that there are competent policies against harassment in its organisations which will

inform and educate employees about sexual harassment and harassment generally, as it often tends to be veiled by other flattering gestures; this is highlighted by Article 4(b) of the Convention. The Employment Equity Act, No 55 of 1998 (The Employment Equity Act) is the legislation which sets out practical details on handling sexual harassment, particularly in the Code of Good Practice and Handling of Sexual Harassment (The Code).

The Code describes the various forms of sexual harassment and conduct which can constitute sexual harassment. Employers that do not ensure that their relevant policies address these aspects may be held liable for failure to take reasonable steps and, to prevent sexual harassment face the prospect of punitive damages as a consequence.

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Power transmission products to Zambia

SEW-EURODRIVE (Pty) Ltd. recently received a multimillion-rand order of 42 units, including geared motors, planetary units, and Industrial Gear (IG) units, ranging from 7.5 kW to 250 kW from a customer in Zambia.

A total of 15 customised IG units are being supplied by SEW-EURODRIVE (Pty) Ltd. of Finland, while other units are also being sourced from Germany. "This is testament to our internationalisation, as we can call on

our extensive global capabilities to meet the specific requirements of our clients in the required timeframe," commented Head of Exports, **Marcio Sicchiero**.

This long-standing cement client has en-

joyed a close relationship with SEW-EURODRIVE (Pty) Ltd. for the past three years

Looking at the Exports Division as a whole, Sicchiero reveals that not only did it achieve its sales targets for 2018, but has shown

sustained growth since its inception. "The reason for our ongoing success in Africa is that we not only meet all of our clients' requirements, but product training and proactive maintenance is a critical focus as well," he concludes.

Deflating the myths around the mechanical joining of HDPE pipe

AS innovations arise, so do the replacements of older technologies. One such product is High Density Polyethylene piping (HDPE) by presenting an improved alternative to the aging concrete or steel piping solutions of the past.

However, as with all pipe applications, sections require joining and for years, butt fusion and electrofusion have been considered the top joining methods for HDPE piping. People commonly overestimate the performance advantages of fusion and until now, it has been widely accepted as the easiest, most efficient method for joining HDPE pipe.

Victaulic, the global leading innovator in mechanical pipe joining solutions and services, has continued to transform various industries

by offering mechanical joints for HDPE piping featuring a strong and durable solution that provides ease of installation amongst its many advantages.

However, myths abound over concerns surrounding the performance and reliability factors of mechanical joints in relation to HDPE piping.

The first myth is that HDPE piping with mechanical joints does not perform optimally when buried. In fact, Victaulic's mechanical joints have been specifically designed with buried applications in mind. Victaulic's products have been fabricated out of durable ductile iron housings and fluoropolymer-coated hardware, ensuring that Victaulic couplings are protected against an array of con-

ditions. Victaulic offers supplementary coating and wrap options should the need arise.

The second myth surrounds the concern that fusing provides stronger joints. Fused joints are susceptible to a number of variables such as the skill of the technician, surface contamination, and hot or cold conditions -- all impact the overall integrity of the joint and there are currently no visual or non-destructive manners in which to inspect the quality of the joint.

Thirdly, many consider that grooving pipe ends creates a point of weakness; however Victaulic solutions have been designed specifically to allow the coupling keys to engage the groove profile, and therefore providing a fully restrained joint up

to the working pressure of the pipe. Victaulic's grooving tools, and training on their operation, ensures that the grooves are tightly controlled within the design specifications.

Essentially, the reduced pipe wall thickness at the groove is reinforced by a restrained ring of iron – a much stronger material than HDPE to begin with. This design adds to the strength of the joint, rather than detracting from it.

Another myth is that the method of fusing remains a faster alternative to joining; and although many may believe this, the reality is that fusing HDPE is a slow process even in ideal conditions. Variables ranging from weather conditions, the skill of installers, and the quality of their machin-

ery impact the success of the joint.

Victaulic couplings ensure an installation time of 10 times faster than compared to fusing, and with only simple hand tools, workers will be able to install the joint without expensive fusing equipment, expertise, power sources, and certified fusion installers. The installation of the joint is not determined by weather conditions, and offers the ideal solution to joints in tighter spaces, as no complex equipment is required for the installation.

As mechanical couplings are faster and easier to install, and require little maintenance, projects are able to save on labour and skilled installation costs which will ultimately negate the cost of the couplings.

First female takes MTO spot at Port of Cape Town

TRANSNET National Ports Authority has announced the appointment of a female marine technical officer (MTO) at the Port of Cape Town, a first in the port's history. Jabulile Shandu is not only the port's first female MTO, she also holds the record as the longest serving female marine engineering officer and is only the second marine engineer to ever be employed by the port.

As MTO, she is responsible for providing technical advice to the marine engineering team to support the operation and maintenance of watercraft such as tugs and pilot boats, a role that is critical ahead of the port's craft replacement strategy

which will see it acquiring new workboats in the near future.

Prior to her appointment as MTO in April 2019, Shandu served as a marine engineering officer for over nine years after qualifying as a marine engineer. "I did my mechanical studies at Durban Technical College, thereafter completed my marine engineering studies at the Durban University of Technology," she explained. "I did my cadetship with Unicorn Shipping Company for 12 months, after which I had to sit for the SAMSA oral examination to qualify as a marine engineering officer."

Shandu said her appointment as the first fe-

male MTO was a dream come true and that she was fully prepared for the demands of the job. "Being the port's MTO comes with great responsibilities that require open line communication with different stakeholders, therefore good communication and respect go hand in hand," she said. "It's important to know that the job needs to be carried out effectively in order for operations to continue smoothly. My motto in life is to 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you'. This ensures I do my work with integrity and always uphold company values."

Earlier this year, the port also recognised Sanette Robinson, who

was the first female pilot to obtain an open licence at the Port of Cape Town. Robinson is trained and certified to guide anything from the very smallest vessels to tankers (51 260 DWT) and container ships (12 000 TEU) into port.

Commenting on gender diversity and women empowerment, Cape Town Port Manager Mpumi Dweba-Kwetana said it was important that the gap between males and females in the workplace grew smaller, and that by supporting women, TNPA as well as other role-players were bringing about positive change in the previously male dominated maritime industry. "It is assuring to see more wom-



Jabulile Shandu, first female MTO at the Port of Cape Town.

en show an in interest in maritime and marine careers. TNPA strives to create equal opportunity for all South Africans and we look forward to more female firsts," she said.

Filteq open in Cape Town

FILTERING Solutions, a leading supplier of filtration and separation equipment to South African industry for over 25 years, has now established a branch in Cape Town in order to more effectively service both the Eastern and Western Cape territories and clients in the area. Filteq's combination of skills, versatility, vast range of filtration experience and top quality equipment differentiates it

from others in the field. Filteq service a broad range of clients involved in many sectors of the economy, including the mining sector, petro chemical industry, steel industry, pulp and paper industry, automotive and paint industries, food & beverage industry amongst others. Its diverse range of filtration, separation and classification equipment is sourced from both highly reputable

and experienced local as well as overseas suppliers, enabling Filteq to meet virtually any filtration or separation requirements.

Its product range covers:

- Mist eliminator pads or Demister Pads & Mist Eliminators in candle form.
- Chevron / vane type Separators.
- Ceramic cartridge filters for high temp

applications.

- Self-cleaning filters for oil, water and chemicals.
- Wedge wire screens and Reactor Internals.
- Cartridge and bag filters.
- High pressure filtration systems.
- Polyurethane Hydro-cyclones for wet applications.
- Porous sintered metal cartridges.



Mr Arnold van Wyk with many years of experience in the engineering industry will head Filteq in the Cape Region and can be contacted on 082 921 9060 for any filtration requirements or queries.

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Green economy presents huge investment opportunities

THERE is billions of Rands worth of opportunities for green economy investors in South Africa. These opportunities are highlighted in the annual GreenCape flagship market intelligence reports (MIRs). The 2019 MIRs,

which were funded by the Western Cape Provincial Government's Department of Economic Development and Tourism, were recently released by GreenCape. The reports are written for investors and businesses, both local and

international, which are currently active or interested in green economy sectors in the Western Cape and South Africa. The reader-friendly reports can be downloaded for free and are available online. Notable investment

opportunities highlighted in the 2019 MIRs include:

- **Utility Scale Renewable Energy:** The latest Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) 2018 allocations indicate 8 100 MW for wind, 5 670

MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) and 2 400 MW of small-scale embedded generation (SSEG) to be procured by 2030, which has the potential of attracting in excess of R200 billion in the next 12 years. With a growing energy market and an increase in the number of IPPs, a secondary market for refinancing and equity buyouts has emerged.

- **Energy Services:** The South African energy services market holds lucrative opportunities for equipment suppliers, project developers, technical advisors and financial investors. By 2035, the South African energy storage (battery) market is expected to reach R15-R30 billion, the energy efficiency market R21 billion, and the rooftop PV market R75 billion per year.

- **Electric Vehicles:** Global sales of Electric Vehicles (EVs) are projected to reach five million in 2019, up from one million in 2015. For South Africa, a thriving EV market supported by local manufacturing holds the promise of economic growth and job creation, also countering the inevitable eventual decline in demand of ICE vehicles globally. Read more about the emerging opportunities in South Africa's nascent EV market in the 2019 Electric Vehicles MIR.

"What makes these reports unique and valuable to investors, is the fact that the authors of the reports work at the frontier of the green economy, climate change adaptation and sustainable development,"...

- **Water:** The 2019 Water MIR draws on market trends observed during the drought to highlight emerging longer-term investment opportunities linked to water scarcity in South Africa. The report focuses on insights relating to the four key urban water markets: Commercial and industrial businesses, households, new property developments and municipalities.
- **Waste:** In 2016 the waste economy contributed ~R24.3 billion to the South African GDP and provided 36 000 formal jobs and ~80 000 informal jobs/livelihoods. A further R11.5 billion per year could be unlocked by 2023 by diverting up to 20 million tons of waste from landfills. The anticipated spin-offs could include 45 000 additional formal jobs and 82 000 indirect jobs, as well create of 4 300 SMMEs. Opportunities within the organic, e-waste, plastics and builders' rubble sectors have the potential to unlock ~R1.2 billion in value. However, to unlock this value, stakeholders must be involved and technologies implemented.
- **Sustainable Agriculture:** When taking into account the

whole agricultural value chain, the sector is estimated to contribute about 12% to the national GDP. There are emerging investment opportunities in remote sensing technologies for precision agriculture applications (driven specifically to improve water efficiency and climate adaption); undercover farming (UF), which includes low-tech infrastructure such as shade netting and higher-tech controlled environment agriculture systems; and well-established investment opportunities in renewable energy (RE) and conservation agriculture.

"Through close working relationships with businesses, investors, government, and academia, GreenCape's sector desks are in a unique position to collect, create, and disseminate free market intelligence on the green economy," says Mike Mulcahy, GreenCape's CEO. "What makes these reports unique and valuable to investors, is the fact that the authors of the reports work at the frontier of the green economy, climate change adaptation and sustainable development," he added.

The reports are available from the GreenCape website: <https://www.greencape.co.za/market-intelligence/>

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COLIN SIMMS has been appointed to the position of Regional Manager, Central Region for Hytec South Africa.

Colin brings 26 years' of experience with an Instrumentation Trade certificate and experience in lubrication systems, industrial process valves and process instrumentation as well as petrochemical and pulp and paper sales experience. He has in-depth knowledge of the Central Region where he will be assisting the company's Sales Director, Freddie Kühn,



Colin Simms

with managing sales in Kuruman, Klerksdorp, Vaal, Gauteng Components and Pretoria branches.

Electric propulsion for aircraft – a step closer

“WE are at the dawn of the third era of aviation,” proclaims Rolls-Royce as it announces the acquisition of Siemens’ electric and hybrid-electric aerospace propulsion business, marking a clear step further into making greener engines.

The eAircraft is Siemens’ business branch which is developing all-electric and hybrid electric propulsion solutions for the aerospace industry. Rolls-Royce expects to finalize the acquisition of eAircraft in “late 2019”, depending on acquiring needed approvals.

The company broke the news on June 18, 2019, with high hopes the move will help the company to jump ahead of the competition of what it sees as a future for aviation. “We believe that pure electric, or all-electric, propulsion will power smaller aircraft in the foreseeable future, while larger aircraft will rely upon hybrid electric solutions that combine electrification with evolutions of the gas turbine,” explains Paul Stein, Rolls-Royce Chief Technology Officer.

“Electrification is set to have as dramatic an impact on aviation as the replacement of piston engines by gas turbines,” Rob Watson, Director of Rolls-Royce Electrical believes. “We are at the dawn of the third era of aviation, which will bring a new class of quieter and cleaner air transport to the skies”.

Rolls-Royce already collaborated with eAircraft (as well as Airbus) working on the E-Fan X demonstrator project. However, in June 2019, Siemens ended

the collaboration after achieving agreed goals, Airbus explained at the time, while Rolls-Royce maintains simply that it was a “business decision” on Siemens’ part.

Airbus and SAS join forces to explore hybrid aircraft solutions

Airbus has signed a research agreement with

SAS Scandinavian Airlines to cooperate on hybrid and electric aircraft and infrastructure requirements.

E-Fan X is a complex hybrid-electric aircraft demonstrator. In the test aircraft, one of four jet engines is replaced by a 2MW electric motor, roughly equivalent to that of 10 medium-sized cars, as Airbus explains

it. “The electric propulsion unit is powered by a power-generation system and battery. When high power is required—at take-off, for example—the generator and battery supply energy together”. The first flight is expected for 2021.

Source: Aerotime News Hub



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GCE adds i-team range

GOSCOR Cleaning Equipment has been appointed one of the two distributors of i-team SA's full range of products in South Africa.

A prominent product in the i-team range is the i-mop, a relatively compact machine that solves problems of floor cleaning systems by combining the flexibility of a floor mop with the power and speed of industrial scrubber drivers. The i-mop family comprises three models – the i-mop Lite, the i-mop XL and the i-mop XXL - cleaning up to 70% faster than conventional wet mopping and being easy to use in small areas that don't need an auto scrubber.



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West Africa's first LNG storage and regasification plant

EQUATORIAL GUINEA is set to construct the first liquefied natural gas (LNG) storage and regasification plant in West Africa, advancing efforts to monetize gas resources through the creation of a domestic gas-to-power infrastructure.

Located at the Port of Akonikien on the country's mainland, the plant will enable the transportation and storage of LNG from the EG LNG plant at the Punta Europa Gas Complex on Bioko Island, to Akonikien on the southern border of the mainland. It will then be fed into the regasification plant to be distributed to smaller-scale power plants and LNG power stations throughout the country, as well as exported to neighbouring countries.

The Akonikien project is the first gas-to-power development in Equatorial Guinea's LNG2Africa initiative. Launched by the



Ministry of Mines and Hydrocarbons in 2018, the initiative seeks to facilitate the production and trade of LNG through the creation of a domestic gas-to-power infrastructure and intra-African LNG industry.

Spearheaded by local construction and engineering firm Elite Construcciones, the plant will have a storage capacity of 14 000 m³ with 12 bullet tanks. The tanks are currently the largest factory-built cryogenic bullet tanks in the world with a capacity of 1 228 m³ and dimensions of 31 m x 9.3 m

x 8.8 m. Built by American manufacturer Corban Energy Group. Elite Construcciones is also installing a truck loading station and 12 km of 250 mm gas and diesel pipelines.

Other major suppliers include pipe supplier PFF Group, who manufactured 12, 4 km of pipes, shipping agents D&B Shipping Ltd. who facilitated the shipment of 22, 12 m open-top containers, and Meakin Logistics UK. Elite Construcciones also worked closely with German companies Noorwerk and ESC on the design and construction of the plant.

Ford's expansion – good news for SA

AN investment of R3-billion announced in 2017 opened up new potential for Ford's Silverton Vehicle Assembly Plant in Pretoria and the Struandale Engine Plant in Port Elizabeth.

The Silverton plant now has installed capacity to produce up to 168 000 Rangers and Everests per year - an increase of 44 000 vehicles prior to the expansion, and a substantial 58 000 more than the original Ranger production capacity when this programme commenced in 2011.

Between 2009 and 2018, Ford invested over R11-billion in its local operations as a global production hub for the highly successful Ranger line-up which is sold locally and exported to 148 markets around the world. The Everest seven-seater sport utility vehicle (SUV) is supplied to



markets in Sub-Saharan Africa and domestically as the popularity of this segment grows rapidly the world over.

"Our Ranger programme has been extremely successful, and we produced our 500 000th unit in August last year," says Neale Hill, MD of Ford Motor Company of Southern Africa. "The global demand for the Ranger continues to grow, and the R3-billion investment in our local operations has enabled us to prepare for an even more exciting and dynamic period ahead."

"Export-oriented business is absolutely crucial for the long-term sustainability of the automotive industry in South Africa, and we are delighted and encouraged by our ongoing expansion in the global Ford supply chain for the Ranger programme. It reaffirms our ability to compete with the best plants in the world in terms of production quality and efficiency," Hill adds.

Currently over 400 vehicles are assembled at the Silverton plant each day, with higher volumes on the cards in

line with the expanded production capacity. Approximately two thirds of the vehicles assembled locally are exported, making it South Africa's leader in light commercial vehicle (LCV) exports. The balance is sold through Ford's 133 dealers across South Africa, Namibia, Botswana and Swaziland.

In order to meet the rising international orders, Ford began exporting Rangers from Port Elizabeth to selected European markets in April this year - an initiative that addresses the high level of congestion at Durban's Roll On Roll Off (RORO) Terminal which is the country's primary import and export hub.

"The multi-port export strategy makes effective use of Transnet's rail infrastructure to transport vehicles from our Silverton plant to the Port Elizabeth

vehicle terminal, which is currently under-utilised," Hill says. "We are shipping approximately 1 000 Rangers a month via Port Elizabeth, which improves our efficiency and delivery timeframes to Europe where the Ranger is the top-selling pickup."

Committed to South Africa

While the production expansion is a great success story for Ford Motor Company of Southern Africa, it is also directly linked to the significant role the company plays in both direct and indirect employment opportunities locally.

Currently Ford employs approximately 4 300 people in South Africa within its local operations. Additionally, it supports around 50 000 jobs within the value chain amongst its suppliers.

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New address



Goscior Cleaning Equipment (GCE) has outgrown its previous premises, which necessitated the recent move to a new, larger facility. Previously located in Prime Park in Montague Gardens, GCE has moved to No. 5 Ferrule Avenue, Montague Gardens.

Digitising 590 000 paper CVs onto cloud database helps address unemployment in SA

HUNDREDS of thousands of paper CVs of unemployed people lie dumped in boxes in organisations around the country. Despite a youth unemployment rate over 38%, there is little hope of these CVs ever being seen or used by employers. Despite many technological advances with online jobs, in reality the majority of SA's job seekers still rely on paper CVs as the primary method for seeking employment. There is therefore a desperate need to connect job seekers with employers yet paper CVs face a dead-end due to a lack of practical ways to store and access job seeker databases.

Additionally, when dealing with high volumes of applications with similarly qualified candidates, the ability to communicate en-masse with the right candidates is critical to solving youth unemployment.

But this is changing due to youth employment engine Layaway's innovative approach in developing technology to resolve these issues. As pioneers in high-impact sustainable youth employment solutions, Lulaway develops technology to address obstacles to youth employment and is able to quickly process high volumes of CVs into a cloud-based database. This centralised system addresses the constraints preventing job seekers from finding jobs and makes it easy for employers to find the staff they need.

Organisations that Lulaway has digitized CV databases for include the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) and the Gauteng City Region Academy (GCRA) which have placed thousands of young people in positions.

With over 590 000 job seeker profiles currently on the Lulaway database, employers across South Africa can now source entry-level staff with greater efficiency by instantly accessing job seekers with a diverse range of skills, experience and qualifications.

Lulaway's latest project involved digitizing of over 50 000 CVs in just two months for the Limpopo provincial government which is preparing for a \$10 billion (over R140 billion) investment from China into the Musina-Makhado special economic zone.

In preparation for the thousands of employees required to work in the zone, the province called on residents to submit their CVs. But provincial leaders realized that to give real chances to residents, especially those in the Vhembe district, they could not

rely on collecting thousands of paper CVs. The province reached out to Lulaway to implement an advanced system to create a digitized cloud-based database of job seekers in the region.

Lulaway will immediately start drawing on these profiles to place candidates while building a diverse talent pool

for the special economic zone.

Lulaway chairman, Andile Mkhosana, says that this project demonstrates what is possible by using technology to promote employment. "We have employers nationwide who struggle to source candidates, particularly outside the major met-

ros. This database will stimulate growth and expansion in the region. We can now offer placement services to our current employers, as well as source new employers. Youth will benefit as well as the private sector."

Mkhosana continued, "Technology has a critical role to play in

solving social issues. Lulaway's goal is to create social impact harnessing the best of technology to solve one of the biggest problems facing our country, unemployment. It's promising to see Limpopo and other organisations embracing technological solutions as they understand the benefits it will have."



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The resurgence of carbon filament bulbs

CARBON filament bulbs have experienced a resurgence and are a modern-day interior design staple.

If they sound unfamiliar, it may be because you know these retro-cool bulbs by a different name - Edison bulbs. Carbon filament bulbs are often referred to as Edison bulbs because Thomas Edison is said to have invented them. Factually, though, carbon filament bulbs were originally developed by Sir Joseph Wilson Swan. Edison used Swan's re-

search, along with the work of other scientists, to develop the breakthrough invention he patented in 1879 as the prototype of the carbon filament bulb. His original prototype used a bamboo filament but was eventually replaced with the tungsten filament that we still use today. In the 1980s, New Yorker Bob Rozensweig was so fascinated by these antique bulbs that he started selling reproductions of them. And so began the new wave of interest in carbon filament bulbs.



Carbon filament bulbs have become popular in interior design because they're both functional and decorative. Unlike other bulbs, the carbon filament bulb looks like a work of art when

illuminated and does away with the need for a lampshade. The uniquely shaped filament creates a mesmerising glow and the bulb shape is reminiscent of Edison's original hand-blown de-

signs. This adds a nostalgic feel to vintage-inspired spaces and rustic industrial interiors. The soft illumination created by the exposed filament adds warmth to a space and creates a welcoming ambience. Dining establishments are particularly fond of the carbon filament bulb because the soft amber hue mimics the glow of candlelight, bathing both the diner and their meal in a flattering wash of light.

Carbon filament bulbs make a stronger visual statement when compared to regular

light bulbs because their filament is visible and loose. These filaments come in a variety of styles and can be identified as follows:

Squirrel cage: The filament is threaded vertically up and down.

Spiral: The filament is spiralled.

Hairpin: The filament is shaped like a bobby pin.

Loop: The filament has three or four vertical loops.

Christmas tree: The filament is zig-zag shaped.

Love the look of vin-

tage carbon filament bulbs but want the benefits of modern LED technology? There's no need to choose - you can have both form and function when adopting this trend. Advancements in LED technology and clever design means that there are now energy efficient LED bulbs on the market that have an old-school aesthetic.

Eurolux Lighting stocks regular carbon filament bulbs and LED filament bulbs in a range of shapes, sizes, and colours.

Pendant lights: 5 different types to consider

WHETHER you're hanging them in a cluster, suspending them in a row at different heights, or simply featuring a solo design, pendant lights have become the luminaire of choice in modern interior design. They're available in an array

of colours, shapes, and sizes and add a decorative touch to a room as well as provide it with illumination. If you're in the market for pendant lighting consider the size and purpose of your space and pick your pendant lighting accordingly with Euro-

lux Lighting.

These are the most common types of pendant lighting on the market:

Multi-light pendants

Often referred to as cluster pendants, this style of pendant is a

great option if you're wanting the grandeur of a chandelier but prefer a more contemporary style of lighting. Multi-light pendants feature anywhere from two to twelve lights and are connected to a central fixture. If your space only has one overhead electrical opening and you're looking to make a statement with lighting then this style of pendant will give you the biggest impact without having to create new openings for multiple fixtures.

Inverted pendants

Layering your lighting is important and a good place to start is with ambient lighting which gives the room its general illumination so that it can be used comfortably and safely. Inverted pendants are ideal for this because they project light upwards towards the ceiling in a way similar to semi-flush mount lights. The only difference is that a pendant hangs down while a



semi-flush mount is mounted directly to the ceiling.

Downlight pendants

These bell-shaped pendants project light downwards. Because of their intense, directional light, this style of pendant is a smart choice for areas where task-oriented activities take place such as a kitchen island or office desk.

Drum-shade pendants

Drum-shade pendants feature a cylindrical


shade diffuser often made from fabric. Because fabric attracts dust easily, this type of pendant is not the best option for the kitchen where dust and grease from cooking can accumulate on the shade. Drum-shade pendants are best suited for rooms such as the bedroom or living room where keeping it clean only requires a quick dusting. The fabric shade also gives a room a softer, more luxurious feel and is a great way to incorporate pattern or texture into a space.

Linear pendants



This style of pendant light is having a moment in interior design and is a minimalist alternative to the more traditional vertical drop pendant. Often sleeker in design, linear pendants are similar to multi-light pendants in that they feature several light sources on a single canopy. Look out for versatile designs that allow the user to orientate the light source in both an inverted and downward illumination direction.

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Lumen8 has its head office (factory & showroom) in Paarden Eiland and a showroom in the Cape Quarter to cater for the needs of discerning customers.



Menlyn Central - combined office and dealership scheme

ABLAND, with a property development track record spanning more than 30 years, is on track to complete the premium A-Grade office space situated above Toyota's newest dealership in Menlyn Maine by 1 March 2020.

The development of Menlyn Central is a partnership between Barloworld Automotive, Tadvest Commercial SA and Namib Gate Investments. Located in Menlyn, Pretoria East, the scheme aims to achieve a 4-Star green rating with Green Building Council accreditation.

The building comprises a 16 000 m² dealership with 12 000 m² premium A-grade office space, creating 15



Artist's impression of the completed Menlyn Central building.

floors in total, with the potential for rooftop or penthouse offices. The Barloworld Toyota Menlyn dealership will open its doors during September 2019.

"We are very excited about this project. The support from the

Menlyn Maine consortium has been very encouraging and this, coupled with its location and design, makes us very confident in the scheme's success.

Furthermore, we have introduced our Flexi Suites, semi-serviced

office units catering for tenants as small as 15m², in an upmarket and affordable corporate environment," says Grant Silverman, Marketing and Leasing Director at Abland.

Ideally located along Corobay Avenue in

Menlyn, Pretoria, the scheme is situated opposite the popular retail heart of The Menlyn Maine precinct, providing occupants of Menlyn Central with access to a range of amenities from hotels and gyms to residential units. Moreover, recent infrastructure upgrades ensure that motorists have easy access from both the Atterbury and Garsfontein off-ramps from the N1 freeway.

Frits Schuite, Director of Boogertman and Partners, the scheme's architects, explains the design philosophy: "We have designed and created premium commercial office space and a prestigious new home for Barloworld Menlyn Toyota in an iconic

and affordable building seen in the Menlyn and Pretoria context. The dealership will have a double volume glazed façade showroom facing Corobay Avenue. Prominent individual entrances are provided for the dealership and office building both highlighted by facet lines in the office façade above. Activity is created on the glazed façade of the office building by introducing office patios on the office floors with matching ventilation openings on the four parking deck levels, and subtle variances in the tint colour of the thermal performance glass panels used in the unitised glazing system. Facet lines are highlighted at night with led strip

lighting installed in the glazed façade. The office floors are designed to accommodate large single as well as multi-tenanted options with easy access from the ground floor entrance, visitors parking area and the parking floors via four elevators."

A critical factor in the building is its sustainable energy use. Achieved through double glazing and a central air-conditioning system coupled with a thermal energy storage system, water harvesting, energy-efficient electrical installations, the building will be truly energy efficient. Notably, the dealership will also utilise water recycling processes allowing up to 75% of water to be reused.

A WIN/WIN scenario

BEING a relatively small new comer to the commercial property market Redline Property Group's (RPG) aim in most of its dealings is to achieve a WIN/WIN deal, meaning a happy tenant a happy landlord and a happy agent.

This was achieved recently when the company was approached by senior management of Gemini Solutions to source additional space for their business in Century City, which involved a meeting at their current premises where their exact requirements were analysed.

They were leasing 750 m², the lease was due to expire and they needed an additional 500 m², ideally premises of 1 250 - 1 500 m².

After exploring various options and taking the cost of moving into consideration RPG approached their current office neighbour - SA Rail Solutions.

Much negotiating ensued and after an analysis of SA Rail current space requirements (of which they were renting 500 m²) RPG were able to prove that they only needed 250 m².

Negotiations led to get Gemini Solutions agreeing to fund their neighbour's relocation costs and leasing their office space. RPG was

able to release SA Rail Solutions of their lease commitments.

Furthermore RPG was able to source suitable 250 m² AA grade offices for SA Rail and negotiate a long term lease between themselves and Asset Matrix, relocating their entire office, signage, phones and computer system as well as halving their monthly rent!

Redline were then able to negotiate an amicable long term lease between Gemini Solutions and Growthpoint Properties.

To illustrate the WIN/WIN solution:

- Gemini Solutions - it enabled them to increase their floor space to 1 250m² as well as saved them almost R500 000 (the cost and inconvenience of a move)
- Growthpoint - as they retained a good tenant
- SA Rail - they halved their monthly rent
- Asset Matrix were extremely pleased as they gained an excellent tenant

Redline Commercial were extremely pleased to negotiate a successful deal, earning commission from both Growthpoint and Asset Matrix!



Press Release -
The Aster, Garden Apartments

Horizon Capital Residential has recently launched four exclusive garden apartments in its latest development, **The Aster.**

"We adapted our original design to bring something unique to market in the form of garden apartments in the City Bowl, offering purchasers a new apartment with the benefit of escaping into a private landscaped garden" commented David Sedgwick, Horizon Capital Residential Managing Director.

The Aster is a boutique block that offers twenty-one unique apartments, including four apartments which each have access to a private and beautifully landscaped garden area. The gardens range from 22m² to 80m² and purchasers can select a jacuzzi-upgrade pack for their outside space as the gardens are exceptionally large.

Two of the garden apartments also incorporate a 4.5 metre high ceiling over the living area, creating a luxurious feeling of space and airiness.

These apartments are ideal for those seeking the excitement and convenience of urban living, but also wanting the privacy and tranquillity that can be difficult to find in the City Bowl. The garden apartments are also particularly attractive to those with pets.

The interior of the apartments offers a sophisticated design incorporating a darker colour palette with modern-industrial elements. These include darker aluminium borders accenting the shower, mirrors and sliding doors. Purchasers are able to customise their units, with a variety of options to choose from including joinery colour, counter-tops, flooring as well as a number of integrated appliance options. Natural light to the interior has been maximised by designing each apartment with floor-to-ceiling glass and aluminium sliding doors. Horizon Capital Residential has placed emphasis on communal space, which allows residents to soak in the City, Mountain views and sunsets from the communal pool deck and braai area.

Situated in Firdale Avenue in Oranjezicht, the Aster, is conveniently located in one of Cape Town's most sought-after City Bowl neighbourhoods. All you need is just down the road: a myriad of boutique shops, restaurants, bars and cafés along Kloof Street; the excellent public transport of the City Bowl; the beautiful beaches of Clifton and Camps Bay; the green foothills of Table Mountain; and the charming parks and rich heritage of leafy Oranjezicht. The peaceful, family-orientated neighbourhood has views overlooking some of Cape Town's most iconic sites: Cape Town CBD, Signal Hill, Lion's Head and Table Mountain.

Sedgwick says, "The Aster maintains our responsible approach to development and echoes our shared belief in conscious living. Residents can enjoy the benefits of sustainable features like solar water heating, water-efficient fittings and low-energy LED lighting. The four-storey building offers lock-up-and-go convenience with secure basement parking, CCTV, electric fencing and access control."

The Aster is priced from R2.495 million (including VAT) and as it is a new development, no transfer duty will be payable on transfer. The Aster is set to break ground in the 3rd quarter of 2019 with completion set for the end of 2020. For investors wishing to let their apartments on a short-term basis, a fully managed offering is also available at very attractive yields.

For more information visit www.TheAster.capetown or call Horizon Capital on 021 425 8586

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New hospital opens in Stellenbosch

MEDICLINIC has started operating from brand-new, world-class medical facilities in Stellenbosch, purpose-built for the private hospital group by Atterbury and its partners to serve the growing demands to

care for the Winelands community.

Atterbury began the development in May 2017 and delivered the new 16 000 m² Mediclinic hospital in March this year.

The hospital began operating from its new

home from 1 June.

It houses over 100 beds, a 24-hour emergency centre, five theatres, reception, gardens, coffee shop, and a pharmacy. Its departments cover general surgery, medical patients, ophthalmology,

urology, ICU, general theatres, radiology as well as a day clinic.

The second phase which includes gynaecology, maternity, paediatrics and obstetrics was completed in July.

“Atterbury’s buildings are always care-

fully developed with the people who will use them in mind, and even more so in this case,” notes Atterbury Western Cape Development Manager Gerrit van den Berg, van den Berg. The eco-friendly building was designed by TV3 Architects and Townplanners to inspire wellness. It enjoys plentiful soothing

natural light and is water efficient thanks to a grey water system, water harvesting and its drought-resistant gardens require minimal irrigation. It’s an aesthetically pleasing building that blends perfectly with the beautiful surrounding area.

An extremely convenient location is one of the key benefits for

the community that Atterbury was able to provide the new hospital, which is just off the R44 Strand Road, at the corner of Elsie du Toit Drive, in Brandwacht.

In addition, the old Mediclinic building in Stellenbosch, located in Die Boord, remains operational for orthopaedic, rheumatology and day clinic services.

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New walk-behind concrete trowel from Wacker Neuson.

but also other personnel on the job site.

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Wacker Neuson’s far-reaching southern and sub-Saharan African dealer network brings the extensive concrete product range, backed by superior after-sales service, to Dealers, Plant Hire Companies as well as end-users across the region.

In addition to the known Wacker Neuson High Frequency Internal Vibrators, the company, in line with the success of its battery driven products in the compaction sector, is now working

on the development of a battery driven High Frequency Backpack Internal Vibrator. This product will use the same battery and charger as the AS50e Rammer and the AP-1850We Vibratory Plate.

Customer benefits of this Backpack Vibrator include increased operator safety and comfort and mobility due to the low safety voltage as well as the fact that the machine is powered by a backpack; with no cables having to be dragged around on site provides optimum mobility.

Test units of this system for trials will be made available in South Africa in due course.

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Economic crunch has made concrete durability vital

THE South African construction industry needs more training in extending the durability of concrete structures, says John Roxburgh, senior lecturer at The Concrete Institute's School of Concrete Technology. Roxburgh says the state of the South African economy and lack of new infrastructural investment has made durability a crucial factor to help the beleaguered building industry remain competitive. "Durable concrete structures are also sustainable structures as they do not require excessive costs for repairs and maintenance. Such durable structures have a reduced life-cycle cost which is essential now given the state of the



national economy," he states.

"But to achieve maximum concrete durability, training in concrete technology is essential for both the designers and builders of new infrastructural

projects. At least half of concrete durability is directly linked to the way concrete is handled and looked after. Even when an accredited concrete laboratory designs a suitable durable con-

crete mix, incorrect placing, compaction, curing and protection of the concrete on site will destroy all potential durability."

Roxburgh also believes increased focus on durability in the

construction sector will lead to cost savings because of the reduced maintenance required.

The School of Concrete Technology's recent one-day training course SCT 37: Concrete Durability, specifically dealt with this subject. "The course gave an excellent overview of all the topics that are related to concrete durability. It was ideal for an engineer or concrete technologist or foreman involved in the specification, production or placement of durable concrete," Roxburgh states.

The syllabus of the course included:

- How cement works to ensure impermeability;

- Methods of making concrete impermeable;
- Mechanisms of mechanical deterioration;
- Mechanisms of chemical deterioration; and
- Testing of permeability, sorptivity and conductivity.

Other courses presented by the School that could aid the quest for durability include the SCT30 Concrete Technology

course and the SCT36 Properties of Concrete for the Structural Designer and Constructor.

"The quest for durability and sustainability calls for far more commitment to training than the construction sector is currently showing. Industry players' intent on survival and future growth will know that the slump in the industry provides opportunities to intensify training," Roxburgh adds.

Retaining wall system creates functional and attractive green space at upmarket estate

KANONBERG Lifestyle Estate, developed by Atterbury, a national property development group, is Cape Town's first fully integrated lifestyle residential estate and modelled on Atterbury's successful Woodlands Lifestyle Estate in Pretoria.

Eager to preserve the rural atmosphere of the original Kanonberg farm, Lize Roffey, the owner of one of the homes on the estate, was faced with tough choices when confronted with a steep and unusable embankment to the rear and sides of her property. "An option was to install a concrete block retaining wall, with the idea of breaking up the wall and creating a softer and more natural look. I also wanted to utilise the space at the back of the house for landscaping and Terraforce blocks offered the best solution for value of money and aesthetics in this regard," adds Roffey.



The end result...

varying shapes and sizes, small outcrops with grassed platforms, as well as numerous steps that allow access to any

slippage. Reinforced steel was used inside blocks for the bottom terraces."

A challenge was presented at the back of the house where a particularly high embankment could threaten the pool and backyard with slippage and collapse in during heavy rains. The slope had to cut back with an excavator to avoid creating one huge compact structure but rather various terraces that would fulfil retaining purposes and yet remain visually acceptable to the owner of the house. The terraces are linked to each other by a 4x4 multi step system that creates effective access and seating opportunities.

Van Blerk explains that as it was an in-situ

embankment reinforcing fabric could not be used in this instance, instead steel reinforcing and cement stabilised sand infill where put in place to ensure overall stability, whereas the bottom terraces were built with a double skin of blocks as well as concrete infill and steel reinforcement.

To add the final touches, Roffey hired Helmut Henstock from Gardening Adventures to landscape the completed installation. Says Helmut: "The client was looking to create lush, less formal Moroccan style garden. To achieve this effect Henstock planted lots of perennial trailers and creepers such as Convolvulus (a climbing or creeping

herbaceous perennial plant) on the retaining wall to soften the concrete and to create a more natural look and filled in the terraces with larger plants, such as pony tails (old World tropical plants with branches ending in tufts of sword-shaped leaves), tree aloes and indigenous hollies, amongst others. Henstock adds: "Once all the plants become more established and start flowering, this wall will look beautiful, covered in colour and lush green tones. Overall a bushy, yet tropical and rich effect was created, and the design of the retaining wall really helped with creating this effect. The alternative is unthinkable, a stark grey concrete wall..."

"Every terrace wall has its own foundation...seeing that the earth is not very stable..."

S.P. van Blerk of Decorton, Cape Town based retaining wall contractor, was appointed to install the retaining walls with Terraforce L11 blocks. He proceeded to create a set of walls that skilfully break up the embankment behind and to the sides of the house by incorporating undulating terraces of

part of the installation, even the very top of the wall.

Says Van Blerk: "Every terrace wall has its own foundation (founded in cut/5% cement stabilised soil), drainage system, cement stabilised sand infill & geofabric reinforcing, seeing that the earth is not very stable and to prevent



L13, L18, L22, M10, M15



Terrafix



Terracrete



4x4 Step Block



L11, L12, L15, L16

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94 entries received for SAISC 2019 Steel Awards



L - R, SAISC Steel Awards 2019 judges Keitumetse Moumakoe, Director of the Steel Tube Export Association of Southern Africa and Heather Salinger, Independent Steel Detailer.

SINCE it was first celebrated 38 years ago, the SAISC Steel Awards has grown to become the steel construction industry's premier event. Succeeding years have seen this event growing to this year's record entry of 94 entries.

In the lead up to the awards, which take place on the 10 October, nine Steel Awards judges have been travelling the country assessing the various entries. Feedback from the judges is that they were gratified to see not only the record number of entries but also the diversity of building types which have been entered this year. The entries range from schools, bridges,

corporate head offices, a flight simulator building, minerals processing plants, a colliery processing plant, a nitro phosphate plant, warehouses, shopping centres and a hotel, among the many other entries.

"What impressed me was the range of building types which was much broader than last year," says SAISC Technical Director Amanuel Gebremeskel.

"For example, we have a building entered this year where the client is the Department of Health. In my experience of the Steel Awards, I do not ever recall having a government building as an entry," he explains. He comments that the

broader range of entries also not only pertains to building type, but also to size, ownership and construction / property value - which ranges from cost-effective to high-end.

There was also a much evidence of innovation this year in the use of steel in architectural applications. Gebremeskel also notes the number of steel screens in the various entries. Apart from their functionality, these screens have also been used to improve the aesthetics of the overall structures.

"For example, we received an entry which is a boutique hotel in Johannesburg's northern suburbs. What is truly novel about the build-

ing is its use of exterior steel screening, which provides both shade and improved construction sustainability. He explained that the outer screens surrounding the building had been used to support various types of creepers and vegetation, which render the building far less intrusive in its setting. "The use of steel has very cleverly been used to alter the perception of passers-by of the size of the hotel," he adds, pointing out that it is most encouraging this year that more innovation is apparent in the use of steel, both structurally and architecturally.

What is also noticeable is the growing use of light steel frame

building (LSFB) technique among this year's crop of entries.

"For example, the government building entered is a multi-story office block, which has been constructed from light steel frame (LSF) components," he remarks.

"In these constrained economic times - particularly for the steel industry and construction sector, which have been under enormous pressure - the number, diversity, innovation and quality of the entries for the 2019 Steel Awards is a hugely promising indication that the 'doom and gloom' is set to give way to a brighter and more prosperous future," he concludes.

Deadening the sound



Knauf Insulation Acoustic Batt.

ACOUSTIC BATT is a high performance mineral wool insulation slab designed for use in internal partition walls and intermediate floors to reduce the transmission of noise between rooms. 100mm Acoustic Batt has a calculated Noise Reduction Coefficient (NRC) value of 1.04.

Suria Ramnarain, Sales Development Manager at Knauf Insulation said: "We noticed some of our customers preferred to use an insulation slab for internal partitions. To meet this demand, we have developed the Acoustic Batt, which offers exceptional acoustic performance and complements our popular acoustic insulation range."

"Unlike closed cell or PET insulation, mineral wool has excellent sound absorption properties. This is because mineral wool has an open structure, which traps sound between its individual strands and turns it into heat energy. As a result, when acoustic mineral wool is used in walls or floors, sound cannot travel through the structure into an ad-

acent room or reverberate back into the source room as echoes.

Acoustic Batt is classified as non-combustible Euroclass A1 Reaction to Fire classification.

It is a semi-rigid slab with a width of 600mm to suit standard stud centres, making Acoustic Batt quick and easy to install. The insulation is lightweight, which together with compression packaging, means packs are easy to carry. This also helps to prevent damage to packaging associated with dragging larger, heavier packs on site.

Compression packaging also means less packaging is used and the units of insulation or indeed full pallets of material improve logistics and efficiencies at site through reduced storage space and handling.

Acoustic Batt is manufactured using ECOSE® Technology, Knauf Insulation's patented sustainable bio-based binder that contains no added phenol or formaldehyde. As a result, products made using ECOSE® Technology are 70% less

energy-intensive than mineral wool products made using traditional chemical-based binders, further reducing their ecological footprint. They are also odourless, softer to touch and have the best possible Eurofins Gold Certificate for Indoor Air Comfort, contributing to a high level of indoor air quality.

Acoustic Batt forms part of Knauf Insulation's sound insulation range which comprises Ultracoustic-A Roll, Acoustic Roll and Acoustic Floor Slab.

They have already proved to be extremely successful with the South African architects and installers.

To ensure its customers specify the right insulation, Knauf Insulation has launched an Insulation Solutions Guide, which features its extensive range of non-combustible, high-performance insulation solutions ordered by application.

For further information about Acoustic Batt or to download the datasheet, visit <https://knauf-insulation.co.za/products/acoustic-batt>.

Encouraging appropriate behaviour of cement consumers

WITH South Africa's carbon tax in force from 1 June this year, AfriSam is providing customers with transparent pricing and the ability to make greener choices.

According to Richard Tomes, sales and marketing executive at AfriSam, the way the company complies with the new carbon tax is aimed at encouraging the appropriate behaviour of consumers. Rather than apply a blanket price increase, AfriSam is allocating the amount of carbon tax due on each bag of cement.

The carbon tax is a levy that varies according to the amount of carbon emitted in the manufacture of a product. The different cement brands in AfriSam's range contain varying amounts of clinker - the most energy-consuming element of cement. This means that the carbon footprints of the brands



AfriSam increasingly uses extenders to create high quality cement brands with lower environmental impact.

differ from each other.

"We are taking a transparent and responsible approach to the new tax," says Tomes. "By showing the amount of carbon tax payable on each specific bag of cement, our customers will still see the base price that we are charging. This avoids any confusion about how much of the final

price is going toward the tax." He notes that this approach will also make it easier for customers to identify the AfriSam cement brands with lower carbon footprints.

"We believe that a tax should not just be a punitive tool, but it should also affect behaviour in society," he says. "Just as cement producers are working hard to reduce

carbon emissions, so the end-user can also play their part by choosing an environmentally-friendly brand."

While certain specialist cements demand higher clinker content, he says AfriSam increasingly uses extenders to create high-quality cement brands with lower environmental impact.

Rigid Inclusion columns - a first for South Africa

FRANKI AFRICA has installed Rigid Inclusion columns on a design and construct basis for the ongoing Clairwood Logistics Park project in Durban - the first time this method of ground improvement has been used in South Africa.

Franki Africa has been working on the Clairwood Logistics Park project since 2017 where it has already completed 60% of the original scope. The progress of the project

has slowed down as the client needs to secure tenants before the final scope can be completed.

Franki was contracted to install Rigid Inclusion columns to improve the underlying hippo muds which extend to depths in excess of 35 m. The scope of the project entails about 368 000 m² of treatment footprint to install approximately 47 100 no of Rigid Inclusion columns with 2 m stone heads.

"This is the most

cost-effective solution to achieve increased bearing capacity and settlement reduction," explains Victor Ferreira, Business Development Manager at Franki Africa.

Pile foundations have been a common solution when the bearing capacity or performance cannot be satisfactorily guaranteed by using shallow foundations. This often occurs in urban areas where increasingly higher structures

apply higher forces to the ground. Pile foundations are also required where ground conditions are poor and provide little capacity or stiffness to ensure short- or long-term serviceability requirements.

Ground improvement is an alternative solution for piled foundations in poor conditions, whereby the properties of the ground are improved to allow structures to be founded on simple, shallow foundations.

Hygienic stainless steel tubing, fittings and valves

THE continuous use of stainless steel as the material of choice in the food and beverage and pharmaceutical industries since its discovery 105 years ago is proof of its hygienic, long lasting and reliable properties in countless applications.

The addition of a minimum of 11% chromium to steel produces a thin, passive, chrome oxide layer on the surface which protects the steel against most corrosive attacks. Stainless steels are uniquely qualified as a metal for hygienic applications not only because of their long service life, availability and fabricability, but also because they are corrosion resistant, non-contaminating and can be polished to very smooth finishes. They are strong and rigid and can withstand heat and chemical sterilisation treatments. They are tough at low temperatures -269° C and can withstand temperatures as high as 925° C (continuous) or 870° C (intermittent). In addition they are 100% recyclable.

A comprehensive range of hygienic tubing, fittings and valves

is carried in stock by NDE Stainless Steel in Montague Gardens for fast turnaround for the Cape's food and beverage and pharmaceutical industries, together with a stock of ultra-hygienic tube systems.

Other products used widely in hygienic industries and stocked by NDE include a full range of flat sheets in 304L and 316L for tanks and containers; square tubing mainly for platforms and frameworks; schedule material for water and steam lines, together with BSP fittings; as well as aluminium for cladding and walkways in hygienic plants.

With many years of experience in a wide range of hygienic applications, NDE also offers technical advice on optimum grades and materials for harvest and for many types of hygienic processing.

There are many grades of stainless steel available within the Austenitic, Martensitic, Ferritic and Duplex range of steels. The Austenitic range of steel is by far the most popular with grades 304L (EN1.4301) 18Cr. 8Ni and grade 316L (EN1.4401) 16Cr.



10Ni.2Mo. outstripping production of the other grades. These grades are very compatible with each other allowing integration.

Good weldability allows for a full range of welding. To eliminate bacteria entrapment and contamination in the weld area - which is critical in hygienic processing - welds should be purged. Weld specifications ANSI/AWS D10.4-86: ANSI/AWS D18.1.2009: ANSI/AWSD18.2.2009 could apply.

Differentiation should be made between direct off mill (D.O.M.) tube and ASTM A270 Hy-

gienic tube.

ASTM A270 longitudinally welded hygiene tube should have the internal weld bead removed and finished to RA (roughness average) 1.6 micron. The internal RA finish should be 0.8micron.

B.P.E (Biopharm Equipment) products can be supplied from the Dockweiler range which NDE represents in southern Africa.

Upcoming wine and food tourism conference



Marisah Nieuwoudt.

ENCOURAGING local travellers to overnight in the Cape Wine-lands is one effective way of boosting tourism income while at the same time promoting responsible drinking, believes Marisah Nieuwoudt.

Nieuwoudt is wine tourism manager for Vinpro that represents 2 500 of the country's wine producers, cellars and industry stakeholders.

Speaking ahead of the Wine & Food Tourism Conference at Spier near Stellenbosch on 18 September, "I see the conference as a key resource for progressing ideas, testing concepts and getting feedback from some of the best

in the business. One area I'm keen to discuss is how best to accelerate the switch in local mindset from day-tripping to longer stays in many of our wine-growing regions.

"Currently, up to 70% of visitors to South Africa's wine routes are domestic travellers. Instead of exploring the wineries at a leisurely pace, they tend to focus on one or two activities that they sandwich between the drive there and back. Not only are they limiting their enjoyment, but they are curtailing opportunities for tourism providers.

"Part of the reason for their choosing an excursion rather than an overnight stay is the cost of accommodation. I'm glad to say the industry is exploring the development of modestly priced alternatives in the smaller towns and on farms to give people a greater incentive to stay over. This obviously has ad-

vantages for the local restaurants and hospitality staff."

She said that pricing accommodation around R1 000 a couple per night was also a good way to entice return travellers to the Winelands to explore some of the lesser-known areas. "This applies not only to the domestic market but also to international travellers.

"More than 80% of travellers from Namibia to the Western Cape are repeat visitors. There is so much we can do to induce them to spend more time with us and at more frequent intervals. Our three biggest international markets are the UK, Germany and the US. Let's continue to cultivate these visitor streams and grow the opportunities they offer but let's also look closer to home."

Go to www.wineand-food.co.za for more information, and to register for the conference.

Insertion resistance thermometers



INSTROTECH is offering Kobold's MMA range of industrial temperature probes, or insertion resistance thermometers (with/without transmitter). The MMA is engineered using 316 stainless steel and incorporates high accuracy Pt100 resistance sensors with analogue output options. The MMA is delivered standard with M12 or DIN plug electrical connections, as well as a wide variety of popular process connections.

Integrated Transmitter

Temperature sensors with transmitter are capable of transmitting measuring signals noise-free over long distances. The two-

wire transmitter is integrated in the resistance thermometer. The output-signal is 4-20mA. The transmitter range is configurable from PC through the KM-HART interface and the KM-Soft software.

Kobold MMA features:

- Economical-ly priced digital thermometer with optional plug-on display
- Compact construction with or without transmitter 4-20mA output: PC-configurable range by software
- Measuring ranges: -198°C - +250°C (more on request)
- Pt100 sensor class A, 1/3 DIN, 1/10 DIN

or cryogenic

- Process connection threaded clamp DIN32676, VARIVENT or union nut DIN 11851
- Electrical connection DIN 43650, or M12
- Stainless steel
- Withstands vibration

This quality range of economically priced temperature instrument is suitable for a wide range of industrial applications such as: heating installations, furnace and apparatus construction; machine construction and building installations; marine engineering; general industrial applications; food, and pharmaceutical industry.

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New hygienic hardware



The high-grade stainless-steel housing and smooth surface of the Kinetix VPH hygienic servo motors can withstand wash downs and reduce the risk of contamination in food and pharmaceutical applications.

FOOD and pharmaceutical makers can better protect the integrity of their products using new hygienic industrial control hardware from Rockwell Automation. The new Allen-Bradley Kinetix VPH hygienic servo motors and a new stainless-steel version of the Allen-Bradley PanelView Plus 7 graphic terminal both help minimise contamination during production and ease compliance.

The stainless-steel PanelView terminal can be used on a machine in a “splash” or contaminant zone without the need to be covered or isolated. This helps protect product quality and simplifies the cleaning processes, while removing obstructions to the human machine interface (HMI), so operators can better monitor production.

“In food and beverage manufacturing, demand for more product varieties is creating a need for smaller, more flexible machines with the HMI located in close proximity to the process,” says Christo Buys, Busi-

ness Manager, Rockwell Automation. “The stainless-steel version of our PanelView Plus 7 terminal stands up to the rigours of contamination and cleaning to make this possible.”

The product is the industry’s first general-purpose HMI terminal that is certified by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) in the United States. It has an ingress-protection rating of IP69K to support high-pressure, high-temperature chemical wash downs. It also uses a food-grade silicone gasket with a distinct blue colour to help production workers notice if it’s been damaged and needs to be replaced.

The new Kinetix VPH hygienic servo motors can improve machine reliability while enhancing consumer safety by meeting stringent hygienic standards. The hygienic design – including high-grade stainless-steel housing and a smooth surface – can withstand wash downs and reduce the risk of contamination.

“Some servo motors can fail just weeks after they’re exposed to cleaning and sanitising agents,” Buys explains. “Alternatively, motors can be covered and protected during the cleaning process; but that creates a lengthier cleaning process and can introduce contamination risks. Our new hygienic servo motors make cleaning and sanitisation easier and more efficient to help reduce machine downtime and improve overall equipment effectiveness.”

The servo motors are designed per the EHEDG and 3-A sanitary standards and are IP69K rated and NSF certified. They seamlessly integrate with the Allen-Bradley Kinetix 5500 and 5700 servo drive platform, using single-cable technology to help optimise a machine’s speed and accuracy. And they’re available in a range of sizes and options to help meet a variety of application needs in food and pharmaceutical production.

New process extraction and general cleaning range launched

HYGIENE requirements within the food industry are extremely stringent. The Swedish company Dustcontrol has launched an extraction product line for the food industry: “Good For Food (GFF)”, to be used especially “When Clean Is Not Enough”. The system is designed to contribute to safe and hygienic food production.

“We have developed a complete system that makes it easy for food producers to manage material waste and cleanliness in their production processes”, explains Donna Wei Stenberg, project manager for Dustcontrol’s new food industry product line.

Dustcontrol has almost fifty years’ experience in developing advanced extraction systems and dust extractors for all types of manufacturing industries. Dustcontrol

has now expanded its product range with the introduction of extraction equipment that contributes to safe and hygienic food production. The initiative for the new system comes from one of the company’s customers, a major food manufacturer in Germany.

There are many regulations and requirements that must be considered when delivering solutions to the food industry. Dustcontrol’s new product line meets both the EU and the FDA requirements relating to safe and hygienic food production. Thanks to the colour coding of brushes and accessories, the risk of cross-contamination is minimised. All of the equipment has been designed for smooth handling and easy cleaning.

The Good For Food suction brushes have a unique combination of features. They are

designed to meet customers’ requirements for colour coding, are made from antistatic (ESD) materials, can be cleaned hygienically (autoclavable) and provide the possibility of automatic detection. Apart from the suction brushes, Dustcontrol also offers a complete range of cleaning accessories and hoses that have been specially designed for the food industry.

The Good For Food pre-separator also makes it possible for food producers to reuse materials that have been separated out, for example grain, flour, spices and other dry foodstuffs.

“We are really looking forward to the launch of Dustcontrol’s new Good For Food product line, to meet the requirements “When Clean Is Not Enough”. This new product line will help food producers to in-



The Good For Food pre-separator also makes it possible for food producers to reuse materials that have been separated out, for example grain, flour, spices and other dry foodstuffs.

crease both the quality and the efficiency of their production processes, ultimately leading to increased profitability”, concludes Donna Wei Stenberg.

Using food-grade lubricants on machinery

ACCORDING to Statistics South Africa’s 2018 manufacturing production and sales report, manufacturing is South Africa’s fourth largest industry and contributes 14% of the country’s gross domestic product. The food and beverages division is the biggest portion of the industry, contributing 25% of total manufacturing activity.

This high economic value means that the food and beverage manufacturing industry needs to be especially intentional about using high-quality products for the running and maintenance of its equipment. One of the ways to keep a food production environment safe is to use food-grade lubricants on machinery that could have incidental contact with food.

Lubrication experts Lubrication Engineers (LE) South Africa have a range of synthetic H1 lubricants for machinery that could come into incidental contact with food.

Lubricants used in the food industry are classified as either H1, H2 or H3. Colin Ford, MD at LE, explains that H1 lubricants are for incidental contact with food, H2 are common industrial lubricants and H3 lubri-



cations where there is constant contact with food. “If non-H1 lubricants are used above the food line and the lubricant drops into the production, it can cause the entire batch to be scrapped.

This can be due to coloration (such as a dark oil drop into a white bread dough) or toxicity.” Any piece of machinery that is above a food processing line and requires a lubricant should be lubricated with an H1 lubricant.

Synthetic H1 lubricants usually have a much higher viscosity index than mineral lubricants. This allows them to operate in a wider temperature range. By using synthetic H1 lubricants in a food processing

plant, safety is assured even in instances of incidental food contact, and gearboxes can still be properly lubricated in extremely cold or extremely hot conditions, such as refrigerators or ovens.

H1 products have to be non-toxic and either clear, white or a light beige in colour. They also need to withstand the usual demands of lubrication in a plant, as well as lots of washing. Ford says, “LE’s H1 products are able to do this, due to our exclusive Quinplex® additive, which is a tacifier that keeps the lubricant in place, even during high pressure steam cleaning.”

Ford says that all food grade lubricants should have a National Sanitation Foundation

(NSF) International certification.

He adds that LE has identified the importance of catering to a range of requirements for South Africa’s food industry, and LE’s lubricants also have Halal and Kosher certification.

“In addition to certifications, clients should be asking about the technical performance of a lubricant, such as its water, temperature and wear resistance. It’s no use using an H1 lubricant just because it is H1 if it does not do the job well. LE’s lubricants outperform most other lubricants in this sector, because they can do all of the above,” he says.

For more information, visit www.lubricationengineers.co.za

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Libstar still nipping at market share

BELLVILLE-based food brands conglomerate Libstar, which listed on the JSE in 2018, appears to be chugging along nicely despite the increased pressure the weak economy is placing on consumers.

A recent trading update estimated that Libstar's organic revenue for the half year to end June should increase by 5.3%. Group volumes were estimated to be up a slender 1%, but volumes in so-called 'core' categories increased by 5.4%.

Recent trading updates from other large food brands conglomerates like Remgro-controlled RCL Foods and AVI confirmed trends of weaker consumer spending in an increasingly competitive trading environment.

Libstar's best known products include Lancewood cheese and dairy products as well as Denny, Goldcrest, Cape Herb & Spice and Cook 'n Bake. The group also manufactures dealer own brands and private label brands for an array of local retailers.

The group also distributes international brands like Kikkoman, Tabasco, The Laughing Cow, Kirri and Olitalia in SA. Services are also provided to fast food groups like KFC, McDonalds, Spur, Panarotti's and Famous Brands.

Most encouraging was the disclosure that Libstar's gross profit



margin fattened from 20.9% to 23.2% - which is a solid achievement in such a lean trading environment.

Libstar is headed by the astute and experienced Andries van Rensburg, who was a long serving executive at food brands giant Tiger Brands.

Van Rensburg said that against the backdrop of a weak retail and consumer environment, the group was reasonably satisfied with its overall performance.

He said Libstar's core categories - which represent 88% of group revenue - were expected to deliver mid to single-digit revenue and volume growth. "This was mainly due to strong performances in dry-condiments, snacks and confectionery and baking and baking aids."

He said the operations of Khoisan Tea were now included in the Ambient Groceries category.

But Van Rensburg noted that trading conditions in the non-core categories - which rep-

resent 12% of group revenue - remained subject to significant competitive pressures.

He reckoned these product categories would deliver a 1.5% decline in revenue and a 19.1% decline in volume.

Van Rensburg said the pleasing fattening of gross margins was mainly due to favourable changes in the sales mix of value-added dairy products following the launch of the taste-differentiated yoghurt products range during the third quarter of 2018 as well as the full integration of the Sonendal Dairies operations (acquired in 2017). He said the group also continued to focus on procurement practices, production efficiencies and overall equipment effectiveness.

Margins were also helped by lower dry condiment input costs.

The first half performance is heartening since Libstar anticipated a 40:60 split between the profit produced during its first and second trading halves.

Heavy duty roller chain for balers

"THE highly-experienced BMG team offers farming sustainability solutions that focus on the correct use of suitable equipment for the specific task and the efficient application of advanced technologies," explains Gavin Kirstein, National Tsubaki Product Specialist, BMG. "Through the Boer Slim/Smart Farming concept, BMG's agricultural experts work closely with farmers, to help them cope with constantly changing trends in agricultural machinery.

"A recent success in agricultural engineering for one of our key Japanese suppliers - Tsubaki - was solving the chain breakage problems on harvesters, as a result of excessive shock-loads in the field.

"During the harvesting season, it is essential that round balers operate efficiently to ensure maximum yield for the farmer. Shock loads during baling weaken an inferior chain, which can lead to unacceptable stoppages for farmers who are working to tight deadlines. The pressing process also exposes chain to extreme forces, which conventional chain cannot withstand for an

entire season. Farmers have been unhappy with the loss of productivity during the downtime of their balers and they resent chain replacement costs.

"Tsubaki's solution was to develop a heavy-duty reinforced roller chain to meet the high-volume capacity of agricultural machinery in tough operating conditions, with no risk of breakage during operation. The robust Tsubaki RS100HT chain for balers has a 25% higher maximum tensile strength, improved anti-shock performance and greater fatigue strength, when compared to chain manufactured by other companies.

"Almost 70% of global OEM baler manufacturers now choose the Tsubaki heavy-duty chain series as standard for installation in the main drive system. Feedback from farmers indicates that they are satisfied with higher productivity, reduced maintenance requirements and reliability throughout the season, with no loss of production from downtime.

"A further benefit is that heavy-duty Tsubaki chain can also prepare



The robust Tsubaki RS100HT chain for balers has a 25% higher maximum tensile strength, improved anti-shock performance and greater fatigue strength, than competitive products.

perfect bales, as these chains are suited to the high pre-tension settings required to allow easy storage and shaping of hay."

The Tsubaki HT series chain provides a significantly higher tensile strength than the ANSI G8 series chain, by applying through-hardened pins and link plates of the next larger pitch size in the ANSI G8 series. Compared to the previous series, the wear-life of the HT Series is doubled by using solid bushes instead of curled bushes. The HT series chain also provides higher fatigue strength and is best suited for low operating speeds (up to 50 m/min). Dimensions of the

chain are identical to the H Series chain.

New to the company's range are slogging hammers and wheel sloggers, used to loosen and tighten bolts and nuts quickly and easily; BTC gearboxes, designed specifically for packhouses and Motoline solar inverters for photovoltaic (PV) water pumps. Dual direction multi-purpose gearboxes, PTO clutches and components and heavy-duty coupler bearings have also been launched recently.

The company provides solutions to all key players in the agricultural sector, including local manufacturers of equipment and implements, as well as agricultural re-sellers and the farmer.

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Plug & produce with the new smart press kit



The new Smart Press Kit combines mechanical and electrical Bosch Rexroth components with software.

BOSCH Rexroth is setting new standards for fast and efficient pressing and joining applications with its innovative new modular Smart Press Kit. Designed to meet future industrial requirements by providing a complete mechatronic package across a wide range of pressing and joining applications, the kit functions according to the Plug & Produce principle, and will be supplied in sub-Saharan Africa through Tectra Automation.

Industry requirements and processes are shifting away from individual products to complete system kits. In the Factory of the Future, machines, production lines and storage systems will collaborate within a network composed of cyber-physical systems

(CPS) that will be capable of autonomously exchanging information, triggering actions and controlling one another. The Smart Press Kit is an innovative solution on the road to the Smart Factory. It delivers swift, easy commissioning with automatic configuration.

The modular kit consists of synchronised hardware and software components: electromechanical cylinder and power sensor, servo motor, drive controller, industrial PC and browser-based HMI software. Pre-selected mechanical, electrical and software components are combined in various kits for forces from 2 to 30 kN.

Automatic parameterisation of the servo drive, pre-installed operating software and a

minimal number of interfaces, the kit simplifies configuration and commissioning, maximises transparency, reduces downtime and increases productivity, saving up to 95% engineering time. The new software with an intuitive, modern design is Industry 4.0 capable thanks to a connection via OPC-UA, and no programming knowledge is required.

Ideal for applications where simplicity and rapid commissioning are all important criteria, the Smart Press Kit has wide application across industry. It can be used for assembly, joining, forming and testing applications. "The Smart Press Kit can be used as a stand-alone solution or as an integrated solution," says Julie van den berg, Tectra Automation Product Manager.

100% pure, contaminant-free air for pharmaceutical clean rooms



COMPRESSED air is used extensively throughout all sectors of industry. However, in certain applications such as the pharmaceutical industry, it is crucial that the compressed air supplied is completely free of contaminants such as oil vapour, moisture and particulates.

"In particular, contaminant-free air is a requirement for the air supply to 'clean rooms' used in pharmaceutical manufacturing where, for obvious reasons, exceptionally stringent hygiene regulations

apply," explains Rand-Air's Fleet Manager Craig Swart.

Clean rooms require large volumes of air - usually at a controlled temperature and humidity. This means that in most facilities, the cleanrooms Air Handling Units (AHUs) consume over 60% of all the site power. As a general rule of thumb, the cleaner the cleanroom needs to be, the more air the AHU will need to use. To reduce the expense of modifying the ambient temperature or humidity, AHUs are designed to

recirculate (if product characteristics permit) about 80% air through the room, removing particulate contamination as it is generated, while simultaneously keeping the temperature and humidity stable.

Pharmaceutical manufacturers adhere to guidelines such as those outlined in international codes International Standard ISO 14644, Cleanrooms and controlled environments-Part 1: Classification of air cleanliness, and Part 2: Specifications for

testing and monitoring to prove continued compliance with ISO 14644-1.

To achieve the above compliance, these manufacturers need to employ the latest technology, such as certified Class 0 oil-free compressors. These will ensure their processing systems remain contaminant-free at all times - as only Class 0 oil-free compressors can guarantee total air purity in pharmaceutical processing.

A pioneer in oil-free compressor technology, Atlas Copco has set the standard for contamination-free compressed air in the pharmaceutical industry.

The first compressor manufacturer to achieve ISO 8573-1 (2010) Class 0 clean air (the most stringent classification), Atlas Copco compressors ensure that the compressed air in pharmaceutical production processes is free from any oils which could compromise quality of the pharmaceuticals produced.

"At Rand-Air, we have a range of oil-free compressors to suit most applications and requirements," says Rand-Air's Sales Manager Kim Coetzee.

"So if the manufacturing requirement is for oil-free compressed air for an environment such as a clean room, one has to ask: 'Why take the risk of damage to reputation and to the health of others by using anything else?' A Class 0 oil-free compressor from Rand-Air is ideal for the pharmaceutical industry and for all clean room-applications in particular," she concludes.

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Digital solutions at Automation Expos

FESTO has staged a series of Automation Expos in Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town and Durban, attracting industry leaders, engineering professionals, senior executives and technology enthusiasts. With the theme of 'Introduction to Industry 4.0: Core elements and business opportunities', the aim of the expos was to educate industry professionals on how Industry 4.0 can enhance productivity in the workplace and improve efficiency. Customers attending were accredited with 0,5 CPD points and

awarded a certificate of attendance.

Four Festo industry specialists engaged in a panel discussion with the customers and tackled some of the frequently asked Industry 4.0 questions. Nico Landman, who heads up Festo Didactic, took the attendees on a fun and interactive digital journey, which brought home the sort of changes we can expect in the very near future and the societal and technological upheavals resulting from digitalisation.

The Festo industry specialists covered the company's four pil-

lars of digitalisation: Learn, Build, Operate and Inspire. Landman introduced the concept of Qualification 4.0. He explained how Industry 4.0 will affect business models and how Festo Didactic can help prepare us for digital automation in a rapidly changing work environment.

The Learn. Process Automation manager, Russell Schwulst explained the Build process and how easy it is to jumpstart digitalisation with the free Festo Software engineering tools.

Business development manager, Skye Prato covered the Op-

erate angle, including the Motion Terminal VTEM, which is the world's first pneumatic automation platform controlled by apps, all in one smart package that can replace over 50 individual components. This is set to catapult pneumatics into the age of industry 4.0 and revolutionise automation technology.

National Sales Manager, Adrian Bromfield expounded on the innovative Festo Bionic Learning Network and explained how Festo's inspiration often comes from nature. The Festo CP factory is another smart solution



Festo industry specialists inspiring the attendees with the four pillars of digitalisation: Learn, Build, Operate and Inspire.

that was showcased. This holistic learning factory solution can be

used to qualify personnel in the operation of a production process

or in a specific field of work, such as production technology.

Filtration leader celebrates 40 years of solutions

HYDRASALES, a specialist distributor of hydraulic filtration and accessories celebrated the business' 40th anniversary on 1 March 2019. The company has developed expertise in quality hydraulic filtration to help design teams and power pack service teams with contamination control and optimum filtration solutions.

Hydrasales represents leading international brands MP Filtri, Faster, Hedland and Minter in Africa. The greater Cape market is serviced by a branch in Cape Town. Branch manager, Kevin Walker ensures he has adequate stock to meet client expectations and needs. He ensures that customer's orders are executed timeously with an extensive range of inventories. He advises; "Our close relationship with clients and understanding of local market conditions and tight deadlines to get maintenance done, becomes a driver for us to be as pro-active. We ensure optimum stock holding for our customers."

Hydrasales sales manager, Cheryl Johnson supports the Hydrasales branch network by helping with sourcing, liaising and expediting shipments. Having extensive experience in sales and product sourcing she facilitates customer service with prompt action.

Hydrasales BEE compliant status is enhanced with its drive to help customers on product training and



MP Filtri UK General Manager Mr Phil Keep addressing the 40th anniversary guests.

supplier technical visits. Lucas Thela who focuses on business development, is adamant; "our country needs skills transfer and skills development. How better to impart technical training to young workshop personnel? Filtration helps towards cleanliness within a hydraulic system and many people do not have the training to maximise on controlling or minimising contaminants within a system."

Kevin Walker proclaims; "Whether it is low cost filtration or sophistication that clients look for we offer them a wide range of possibilities, including filtration for differing pressures, miscellaneous pressure lines and we propose economical solutions to suit our customers' needs." Cheryl Johnson confirms; "We adamant it has to be win-win, competitiveness and proposing the best solution."

Hydrasales unveiled

a new brand identity at this historical milestone. The fresh and clean concept showcases the need for cleanliness within industry and encompasses going green and environmentally friendly.

The logo encompasses the importance of the extension of supplier relationships in a broader African context. Phil Keep, general manager of MP Filtri UK congratulated Hydrasales on reaching such an important milestone. Speaking at the gala dinner he complimented the Hydrasales team on their efforts in building a legacy.

Hydrasales also stocks the MP Filtri range of Contamination monitors such as the LPA series and the ICM series. These are compliant with international standard in the fine measurement of contaminants with accuracy.

For more information, visit Hydrasales web page at www.hydrasale.co.za

6 000-ton power pack for mine

HYTEC South Africa recently custom-designed and manufactured a 6 000-ton power pack for a mine in Lephalale. Supplied in a three-metre shipping container, the solution is equipped with a pressurisation unit, control electronics and automated lighting. The power pack was designed, manufactured and commissioned at the Rexroth HUBB in Kempton Park.

The containerised power pack controls the belt feeder on a coal conveyor to determine the amount of coal feeding into the line using proportional control. Independent knife gate control systems control the chute closing with a 350 kN force. Its pressurisation unit supplies clean filtered air at a positive pressure to the inside of the unit, ensuring dust is kept out, and all filters have a 100% back-up system to prevent downtime.

"In using a shipping container, we are able to offer the customer a 'movable' hydraulic room," says Hytec South



Africa Projects Manager, Neil Griezels. The 6 000-ton power pack has an automated lighting system, which is activated when the door is opened, and the inside of the container acts as a secondary containment system in the event of hydraulic liquids being expelled from the system. Sliding mounts for the electric motor and pump combinations were fitted for ease of maintenance. The whole system consists of transducers and switches, which continuously monitor system performance, and is

equipped with an integrated air blast cooler.

The power pack was released following a rigorous Factory Acceptance Test, which was witnessed by the customer. The unit is currently being installed by Hytec South Africa's professional installation team. On site at the Lephalale mine, the plug-and-play unit will be connected to all the hydraulic actuators, switched on and be ready for use.

Through a tender process, Hytec South Africa was selected as

the preferred supplier for this project, not only for competitive pricing, but also innovation and technological advances.

"We were given specific mechanical parameters to ensure proper integration with the customer's final design," says Hytec South Africa Regional Systems Sales Engineer, Werner Voigt. This specialised solution is one more example of how Hytec South Africa, an African leader in hydraulics, has the capability to manufacture whatever clients require.



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IE3 compliant motor control and protection

OLDER generation switchgear may generate nuisance tripping. Not only is this undesirable, it can also have a severe knock-on effect in terms of operational productivity and efficiencies.

WEG IE3 compliant low voltage switchgear has been engineered to offer absolute reliability when using WEG switchgear to start and operate

WEG IE3 motors.

Users can be confident that when using WEG IE3 compliant switchgear, their drive system will provide the highest levels of energy efficiency over a long service life.

This will, in turn, translate into a reduction in the total cost of ownership (TCO) while complying with current environmental regulations.

WEG Motor Protective Circuit Breakers

Typically, motor protective circuit breakers are affected most when starting electric motors because of sensitivities to transients and instantaneous values of current.

WEG circuit breakers were evaluated specifically in terms of this and the multiple of short circuit release was changed from 12 to 13

times the rms value of the rated current. Following this modification, extensive testing was conducted to verify that, with these modifications, the whole range of WEG circuit breakers is IE3 compliant.

WEG Contactors

The entire range of WEG contactors is IE3 compliant. The application of sound

engineering principles ensured that there is no mechanical or electrical lifespan reduction, or an increase in the contactor's coil consumption.

WEG Overload Relays

Overload relays are designed to thermally protect motors against overload conditions and unlike motor protective circuit breakers

these are not sensitive to instantaneous currents. WEG solid-state and thermal overload relays conform to IE3 motor application

WEG has developed extensive expertise in IE3 equipment conformity and all WEG's current switchgear and protection devices can be used without restriction to ensure the reliable operation of IE3 motors.

Zest WEG Group's technical team is able to assist customers in the appropriate selection of IE3 compliant control and protection components to optimise the efficiency of motor installations.

New products are continually being added to the WEG low voltage switchgear range and are available off the shelf from the Zest WEG Group.

The Smart approach

Smart cities. Smart buildings. Smart metering. Automation. Energy management. Green buildings.

THESE are the smart areas where EDS Switchboards puts their expertise to the test in electrical distribution systems for totally integrated power (TIP).

EDS Switchboards meets the demands of the present and the future of power distribution boards, metering and automation for South Africa and Africa. EDS's products are proudly South African but comply with international standards and certification.

The company pro-

motes efficient energy management systems through partnerships with international companies. These partnerships guarantee that EDS manufactures the latest intelligent electrical distribution systems. The data-driven systems seamlessly link to industrial and building automation systems and lifecycles.

EDS's partnerships include:

- Schneider Electric: PRISMA partner and PME certified

- Siemens: SIVACON technology partner on S8 low voltage (LV) switchboards

EDS is licensed to manufacture the SIVACON S8 (part of TIP portfolio) power distribution boards and MCCs in South Africa and is the only Siemens SIVACON S8 LV technology partner in Cape Town.

The SIVACON S8 system guarantees a high level of plant and personal safety and, due to its original design, offers a wide range of pos-

sible uses. The modular design ensures that the distribution boards can be optimally adapted.

The mining, marine and power generation industries require plants that operate twenty-four hours, seven days a week and, when necessary, the speedy replacement of equipment. EDS as a local SIVACON manufacturer, guarantees this level of speedy recovery. The S8 technology partnership is an excellent solution to meet the demands of the industry.

The SIVACON S8

LV switchboards meet the following standards and approvals:

- IEC 61439-1&2: form 1 - 4
- IEC/TR 61641: tested under conditions of arcing due to an internal fault
- Main circuit: up to 690 V (rated frequency 50 Hz)
- Rated current up to 7010 A
- ARC resistance rated up to level 4
- Rated short-time to withstand current up to 150 kA, 1s
- Ingress Protection (IP) 54
- Seismically tested: functionality and stability
- Lloyds Register of Shipping: LR type approval certificate
- Det Norske Veritas: DNV GL type approval certificate
- Shell Conformity:

'DEP Shell'

The SIVACON S8 LV switchboards are safe, flexible and reliable with intelligent data and process management and Cloud-based systems analysis. Features include:

- Roof plate with pressure relief that increases personal safety
- Comprehensive certifications such as use on ships and offshore platforms—at sea there are a number of challenges to overcome: high seas, saline atmosphere and high air humidity
- Comprehensive certification for earthquakes—the earthquake version of the DBs are tested during and after earthquakes for functionality and stability
- The patented lock-

ing system ensures that the doors stay closed in the event of arcing

- Insulated main busbars
- Safe housing

Safety, reliability, quality and efficient energy management systems are not negotiable and compliance and certification are of critical importance in the industry. Partnerships with international companies ensure that EDS complies with and are certified to the latest local and international specifications in the electrical distribution field. This is a benefit to South Africa and Africa. EDS Switchboards is prepared for the challenges and opportunities in smart energy management and distribution of the future.

For more information contact: contacteds@eds.co.za

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New manifold valve design for pressure transmitters

EMERSON has introduced a new manifold product family for its Rosemount pressure transmitters. Manifolds shut off or equalize pressure at the transmitter, and also provide the critical mounting mechanisms required in many installations. The Rosemount R305 Integral Manifolds and Rosemount R306 In-line Manifolds have been designed to offer significant user improvements on these basic functions.

The most important improvement for both manifolds is the new Pressure-Lock Valve design which simplifies high-pressure operation, increases safety and enhances reliability. New features include:

- Two-piece stem does not rotate in the seat, providing solid closure with minimal wear.



- Easy to turn while delivering positive shut-off.
- Adjustable packing nut simplifies valve maintenance.
- Back seating prevents blowouts for increased user safety.
- Stem and bonnet threads are fully isolated from the process fluid to minimize potential corrosion.
- Modular packing ensures only the stem and body are exposed to the process fluid.
- Larger internal passages to enhance reliability.

in-line pressure transmitters for gauge or absolute pressure applications. When a Rosemount R305 or R306 is selected with a transmitter, the components are fully assembled and high-pressure leak tested at the factory. This allows the transmitter to be installed right out of the box, saving time and money.

“Pressure transmitter manifolds often don’t get much attention, but users understand how vital they are for effective operation,” says Scott Nelson, vice president and general manager for Emerson’s Rosemount pressure products. “Emerson takes all these elements seriously and introduced this improved offering to make this critical operation easier and safer for technicians who work with these products every day,” adds Nelson.

Namibian offshore alluvial diamond areas

IMDH Group has conducted intensive geophysical surveys over more than 60 000 line kilometres off the Southern African west coast. Detailed surveys and reconnaissance have been carried out over this vast coastal area and in a number of these areas the results have been analysed already and sampling programmes started. Survey data relating to other areas are still under detailed analysis, while others – owing to the considerable extended range of areas – still have to be fully surveyed.



Relying on the analysis of the surveys undertaken and on historical information available, the Group is currently implementing resource-based drilling programmes in selected areas to assess the mining potential of its own directly controlled marine EPLs.

Further, the Group has also worked as a contractor for third parties over the past sixteen years by surveying, sampling and mining in Namibian and South African waters, and has developed a highly successful track record.

Marine exploration on behalf of its clients continues in Namibian territorial waters where fully-integrated trenching and mining operations are currently being conducted. Specifically, the m/v Ya Toivo has been deployed in ML 111

to identify potential mining blocks over the Diaz Reef and Elephant Basin areas.

Exploration campaigns have commenced in March 2017 to assess resources in MLs 36, 51 and 103 which were followed by detailed regional surveys and bulk sampling operations.

Mining operations have been successfully carried out since September 2017. Regional exploration campaigns are on-going to further delineate mineable resources and grade within MLs 36 and 103.

Comprehensive cables offering for oil and gas

RECENT oil and gas discoveries in southern Africa point to growth within this sector. Poised to meet the demand for dedicated cables and accessories is Helukabel, one of South Africa’s foremost cable companies, boasting an extensive range of cables, wires, special cables, media technology, cable accessories, as well as data, network and bus technology.

Helukabel have a dedicated range specifically designed to meet the high standards of safety required by this industry with a range of products designed to perform in harsh environmental conditions including:

HELUKABEL BIO-FLEX-500-JZ is an extremely robust control cable with high abrasion and tear resistant properties. Thanks to its high resistance to Biofuel, Bio-oil and coolant emulsions. It is especially suited for use in the machine, tool making and plant industries as well as in the steel industry for difficult and problem areas.

HELUKABEL BIO-FLEX-500-JZ-C the screened version of BIOFLEX-500-JZ is particularly suitable for the interference-free transmission in instrumentation and control engineering applications. It has the same high resistance

levels to Biofuel, Bio-oil and coolant emulsions.

TOPFLEX-EMV-UV-3 PLUS 2XSLCH-J designed as a supply and connecting cable for fixed installations and forced movements in dry, moist and wet environments. These cables are particularly suitable for use with industrial pumps, ventilators, conveyor belts and air-conditioning installations and similar applications in hazardous areas.

HELUKAT 600IND Cat 7e Robust Specifically for use under harsh industrial environmental conditions. Mechanically, this product exhibits excellent resistance to min-

eral oils, greases and cooling lubricants and has good microbe and hydrolysis resistance. Electrically, this cable is characterized by high reserve capacity and outstanding performance.

Accessories include **HELUcond** flexible conduits, which have excellent resistance to fuels oils, being ideal for use within the oil & gas industry and **HELUTOP HT-MS-EX-d** explosive proof glands which ensure safety under the most demanding conditions.

Cables and accessories are produced for a wide range of industrial and infrastructure applications and Helukabel’s exten-



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Joined forces launch recyclable waste programme in Khayelitsha

DISTELL, in partnership with waste beneficiation and implementation partner, Separation at Source (S@S), has launched GreenUp, a progressive community change initiative focused on a cleaner environment, as well as on establishing and formalising effective value chains of operation in the collection, separation and processing of recyclable post-consumer waste within the Western Cape's Khayelitsha informal settlement.

Eric Leong Son, Distell's sustainability manager and GreenUp project sponsor says: "The broad aim of this exciting project is for Distell to further align its operational activities with its sustainability objectives. We have made significant strides in the past few years in fine-tuning our business to be sensitive and responsive to our

environmental impact. By working with S@S in formalising networks or value chains in waste management in Khayelitsha, we also help combat socio-economic challenges and empower individuals within this expansive and fast-growing community."

The largest township in the Western Cape and the sixth biggest informal settlement in South Africa, Khayelitsha is growing at an average rate of 2% per year with an average population number of some 450 000.

According to Kathryn Warner of S@S, it is estimated that the Western Cape generates 7.7 million tons of waste annually, with the City of Cape Town contributing a substantial portion, 48% of the total. She says that drivers of waste generation include population growth, employment



levels, economic development as well as urban growth. In addition, she states, these factors affect goods and services and as a result waste generation. "Furthermore, the cost of landfilling in Cape Town continues to increase due to the rising operating costs - logistics, labour and infrastructure - of providing municipal waste services, together with compliance

costs associated with national legislation.

"The waste industry in South Africa primarily consists of waste collection and landfilling, with as little as 10% of recycling. However, it is estimated that 65% of the waste - approximately 38 million tons - is recyclable and could subsequently be diverted from landfilling and recovered to be

reprocessed or repurposed.

"We are experiencing an increased diversion of waste from landfill towards recycling and recovery," she says. "This is due to a number of reasons, including but not limited to: increasing pressures on municipalities (e.g. limited landfill airspace), extensive investment requirements and

activity by voluntary material organisations and producer responsibility organisations, an increased awareness of sustainability imperatives by business and industry, as well as policy and regulatory reform.

Warner explains that an important feature of the GreenUp programme includes the formalisation and creation of sustainable income streams for environmental assistants (waste pickers) in Khayelitsha. "We are doing so by supporting designated environmental assistants with the necessary training, resources and access to recyclable waste buy-back centres (BBCs) in close proximity to their working environments. Khayelitsha has a few scattered informal BBCs. Although the township is well-served in terms of waste

collection and street cleaning, most of the malls and shopping centres in the township are under-served in terms of recycling collection and pick-ups.

"The township's low population of environmental assistants are scattered widely across the township, so there are areas which have valuable recyclables and provide an opportunity for stable volumes," Warner says.

In summary, Leong Son states that GreenUp will ultimately promote a cleaner environment and create at least 200 sustainable income streams and registered suppliers with BBCs, in addition to unlocking opportunities towards making a positive difference the lives of the people living in the communities in which Distell operates.

Full range of pumping solutions

AS agents for most centrifugal, submersible, mixed flow and positive displacement pumps, of the axial, helical rotor and piston types, as well as electric motors, diesel engines, and valves, Tricom can offer the design, supply, installation, testing, maintenance and repairs of mechanical and electrical equipment and instrumentation by highly qualified personnel.

Installation and guaranteed repairs are offered throughout the

RSA and neighbouring states, for government institutions, municipal councils, industrial, as well as the mining-, agricultural-, recreational- and tourism industries. With a fully equipped mechanical and electrical workshop and store in Bellville a branch office in Plettenberg Bay and contacts throughout the RSA.

Tricom offers a comprehensive 24/7 service. In August 2001 it bolstered its BBBEEE credentials with the establishment of Tri-

com Africa as a business enterprise with 70% shareholding and senior management by previously disadvantaged individuals.

During January 2017 Tricom Africa took over the Motor Control Centre manufacturing of Electro Boards, and is able to design, fabricate, install and test electrical control panels, switchboards, associated instrumentation and cabling.

For details of its background and experience visit www.tricomafrika.co.za.

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Energy sector must embrace innovation

By Riaan Graham, sales director for Ruckus Networks & Kate Stubbs, director of business development and marketing at Interwaste



SOUTH AFRICA is experiencing an energy crisis that requires the public and private sectors, along with households to work together. Fundamental to this is embracing innovative technology that provides more efficient ways of managing the country's energy.

"With the number of connected devices expected to top more than 75 billion worldwide by 2025, the Internet of Things (IoT) can be considered an important tool in reaching this goal. Already, connected devices can be used to deliver smart energy that sees a more optimal use of resources," says Riaan Graham, sales director for Ruckus Networks, sub-Saharan Africa.

This approach relies on a smart grid of connected sensors pointing to areas where energy is wasted. In turn, the supply to these points can be allocated to higher priority areas resulting in a better use of resources.

Aiding this drive towards connected devices is government pushing towards the establishment of smart cities. These cities require a technological infrastructure built around various sensors connected to the

internet to not only generate data, but control things as diverse as traffic lights, street lamps, and other electrical devices.

"These smart cities enable lighting to be automatically switched off when not needed. Sensors on the connected devices will detect when people are on the street and turn it off or on accordingly. What might seem like a novelty, can make a massive difference in reducing energy waste," he says.

According to Kate Stubbs, director of business development and marketing at Interwaste, IoT is just part of how technology can be used to create a more efficient environment.

"South Africa produces an average 108 million tons of waste annually. Of this, only 10 percent is recycled. There is significant potential to use this waste and convert it to energy. This is more than just the traditional way of viewing recycling. Instead, it is

using technology to extract value out of waste through initiatives like refuse and waste-derived fuel," she says.

The first South African Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) plant was launched in 2016 and not only aims to reduce landfill, but also the country's carbon footprint. As the name suggests, the plant converts general, industrial, and municipal waste into an alternative fuel that is used in the cement industry.

"Spin off benefits of this plant includes the creation of additional employment opportunities and a reduction of South Africa's greenhouse gas emissions. Waste management entails so much more than what many people think. But the key remains a combination of technology innovation and a willingness to use the resources generated by this," she says.

Graham agrees about the need to readily accept the innovation technology brings

as the country is teetering on a significant energy disaster.

"New technologies are critical in helping the countries and their cities of the future promote sustainable energy use. For example, Nairobi has introduced smart street lamps that use LED lighting saving money and resources on energy costs. These lamp poles also have Wi-Fi embedded in them that sees air quality probe sensors submitted vital data for city planners on where there are pollution hotspots," he says.

Stubbs feels these are good examples of how energy management approaches in the connected world need to be non-linear.

"The traditional ways of adopting technology, recycling, and managing energy must be seen as relics of the past. Instead, we must all work together and readily embrace modern solutions or risk our country entering a new dark ages," she concludes.

An alarm clock in the nightmare

Continued from back page

hospital are striking and also when they are not.

"A few blocks away the inspectors entered a world of Kafkaesque contrast when they visited the public hospital. At the dilapidated entrance they were stopped by a posse of unfriendly and uncooperative guards, who eventually took them on a run-around of one official after the other, each with a more fabulous story about why an inspection could not possibly be done.

"They did, however, observe a horrible stench, dirty floors, broken windows (some simply taped over), long queues and lackadaisical staff. What the hospital was hiding, remains unknown.

"Now here's the rap. In its burning desire to provide equal health services to all, the ANC is doing nothing to raise the standards of public hospitals to those of private hospitals. The terrible truth is that they want to nationalise the private services and take them all down to the level of

the government's failed public hospitals.

"If the ANC gets away with this grand confiscation scheme, that is the future of all medical services in South Africa."

"Hmm," muttered The Prof. "A nightmare vision. It seems to me we should pay much closer attention to that recovery strategy of the National Treasury and do whatever we can to get it implemented. Tito Mboweni did ask for public input."

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Some news doesn't get headlines

Continued from back page

If the premise is correct that there is a large spike in the homes for sale in up-market areas of Cape Town, there should be ways of checking. After all there may be many motives for selling up as I have indicated.

What got me thinking this way a comment made by a friend in the furniture removal business. He mentioned that he had never seen so many containers of household goods waiting to be shipped in Cape Town harbour.

If he was right that would be strike-off for emigration being on the increase which, given the economy's acute shortage of educated, and or skilled people of whatever colour, is a serious matter.

Further evidence that emigration of skills should be a factor to be concerned about is found in the daily and weekend newspapers, the parts not written by reporters – the jobs pages – specifically those advertisements offering jobs in the Cape Town municipality.

On Saturday, July 20th this year for example, there appeared yet another four-column x 30cms advert. It announced Cape Town Job opportunities – perhaps rather more than it intended to

the discerning reader.

Leaping off the page were the astronomical salaries the City was offering. The number of such high paying jobs being offered was also high.

There were ten in all. The combined packages offered pretty close to R10 million annually. Not one of the ten offered less than an annual R271 000. One job offered an eye-watering salary package of more than R1 million.

If there are suitable applicants for these jobs (given the national skills shortage it is no certainty) their salaries will add to the already large sum spent on the salaries and fees for 27 000 municipal employees and the cohorts of consultants that are also paid by the City ratepayers. So, there you have another insight into the state of the City and the country. It adds to the picture of a metastasizing bureaucracy, at all levels of government -- local, provincial and national.

Add in the so-called state-owned enterprises like Eskom which alone has some 30 000 more staff than it needs, and the problem of unproductive employees paid by the taxpayer is enormous. They are unproductive in the sense that they

spend other peoples' money i.e. taxes.

But the Cape Town City Council situation is the one that hurts most, given that its bureaucracy is paid by homeowners at the mercy of a rating system that assumes all home owners' incomes are in direct relationship to the homes they own (or are in hoc to the banks for the privilege).

There is too little space here to go into the details of the overstaffing of those ironically described as civil servants at all other levels of Government. Suffice it to say that many civil servants are neither civil nor servile. Some are plain arrogant when dealing with the public who through their taxes pay their salaries.

Finally, there is just enough space here to remind readers of the agony of dealing with call centres which appear to be set up to shield civil servant managers from being confronted by their customers.

There is a prize in heaven for the first person to collect the cell phone numbers of every Cape Town municipal manager, place the list on its own web page and then place a letter with the link in the daily papers in the Mother City. 800 000 ratepayers will cheer the winner to the rooftops.

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Interest rates biggest delusion in economy?

"THERE can be no bigger delusion in the total economic science than the claims of central banks, such as the Reserve Bank, and most economists in the world that interest rate changes can control the inflation rate, protect the value currency and promote economic growth," says Fanie Brink, an independent agricultural economist.

He responded to the recent announcement that the Reserve Bank lowered its repurchase rate by 0,25 basis points (a quarter of a percentage point) and said that the inflation rate and the value of the currency, as well as economic growth, are determined by the most basic economic principles in the economy and not by interest rates.

The changes in interest rates also do not play such an important role in the economy, while there is absolutely no evidence for the claims of central banks and most economists for the exaggerated influence of interest rates in the economy. The influence of interest rates is actually negligibly small and insignificant.

"The reality is that the inflation rate (price levels) and the value of the currency are determined by all the local and international political and economic factors that have an effect on the supply and demand of goods and services, as well as the value of the currency, respectively.

Economic growth is determined by the changes in the profitability of each individual industry in the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors of the

economy, which in turn determines the changes in the gross production value of the contribution of each industry to the total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country. The changes in the gross production value of each industry are therefore highly correlated with the contribution that each industry makes to economic growth."

"Economic growth is determined by the changes in the profitability of each individual industry in the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors of the economy..."

The profit motive is in fact the only driver and creator of economic growth, says Brink.

Profitability is, firstly, determined by input/output price ratio and, secondly, the efficiency with which inputs are converted into outputs that can be improved by the application of new technological developments.

Simple statistical analyses show that the changes in interest rates cannot be explained by the changes in the inflation and the value of the currency or economic growth.

"The reasons why the central banks and most economists are still clinging to this total delusion are not only inexplicable but even very misleading," Brink says.



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An alarm clock in the nightmare

IN ran Luke the Dude, disturbing the serenity of the civil conversationists' regular assembly in the local Pub & Grill and causing Bob the Book to spill his beer on the Big White Dog, who jumped up to growl at the company in general and Luke in particular.

"Why are you growling at me?" asked Luke, hurt. "I don't even have a beer yet."

He looked around at the disturbed faces and returned the greeting. "Nice to see you too. Sorry to interrupt you in your usual scheming and plotting to save the country and the world."

"You're welcome," said The Prof, kindly. "We have just this moment completed that task, Lucas my boy, so what do you have to add?"

"Well I hope you have solved the education crisis," he charged, "because I see the ANC wants to get even more tyrannical about affirmative action. Not enough that they have ruined the state enterprises with cadre deployment, they threaten to do the same with private enterprise. Those businesses, you know, who pay the taxes and employ skilful people in real jobs to create more jobs and pay more taxes."

"Useless!" confirmed Jon the Joker.

"Are you serious?" worried Irene the Queen, "how many more jobs do they want to destroy? Not to mention taxes."

"I don't agree," argued Big Ben. "Have you seen National Treasury's plan to improve economic growth and create real jobs? Just what we need to my mind."

"Mind you," grinned Colin the Golfer, "it's just a discussion document, isn't it? And isn't that the problem? Our ANC being masters at discussing things and useless, to coin a phrase, at doing anything? Right boyo?"

"Now that is not quite fair," soothed The Prof. "The strategy aims to get rid of the structural roadblocks and red tape tying the economy down. Small businesses, will, for instance, be exempted from some of the labour constraints hampering them."

"And another thing, Cyril Ramaphosa, while continuously under the cosh from the twitterati for not taking action, has, on the contrary, achieved much since becoming president. JP Landman has recorded the facts in an enlightening analysis for Nedbank, since widely reported. You can Google it."

"With that said and done," said Stevie the Poet, "the answer to Luke's question is no, sadly we have not solved the education crisis and, tragically, neither has the ANC. Latest figures show shocking matriculation results."

"What matriculation results are these?" asked Bob the Book suspiciously. "Here we are in September, still heading towards the exams."

"That is true, my learned friend," replied

Stevie out of habit, being a lawyer in his day job. "Do you remember the Education Department's not-so-clever plan to improve the results? Matrics who were not likely to pass all their subjects in one exam were encouraged to do it over two years. Some subjects at year-end, the others next year. It's the results of those second-half exams that have come out now."

"I hate to ask, but do tell," hurried Bob the Book.

"Patience, my dear Robert, patience," placated The Prof.

"A virtue indeed," continued Stevie. "So here we are: 78 363 candidates made use of the opportunity and wrote their second exam in June. Of those, 6 320 passed. Work it out, that is a pass rate of 8.07 percent. Despite the low standard required to pass. More upsetting, only 260 qualified for a tertiary education. That is 0.3 percent."

"Some of those kids, well, many are no longer children, will go to university next year. But how qualified are they, even with an exemption pass?"

"I can answer that," frowned The Prof. "Most are not nearly adequately prepared. The better universities have introduced bridging courses."

"I am afraid the odds are against these 260 qualifiers," concurred Stevie. "The Sunday Times reports that, by definition, they have already failed Grade 11 twice."

"But wait a minute," Big Ben tried again, "has the education department not decided to scrap this scheme from next year? That shows the government is doing something to fix things. Surely!"

"Quite correct," smiled Stevie, "always good to keep up with the news. Yes, some schools abused it, the minister said."

"Okay, where does that leave us?" enquired The Prof. "The education system is broken, that much is evident. The exceptions are small pockets of excellence in private schools or schools kept at a high standard by parent contributions. So those children fortunate enough to attend these, have the opportunity of a successful career and life. The average government school condemns our children to a much more difficult future."

"Useless!" exploded Jon the Joker. "What does that say about the ANC's insistence on their crazy plot to nationalise private hospitals and the entire health system?"

"Exactly what you think it says," grumbled Irene the Queen. "The ANC has bankrupted state enterprises, even Eskom, which used to be a world leader in delivering reliable, cheap electricity. Ditto the Railways and SA Airways, which used to run at a profit."

"Not to mention the unholy mess at the SABC. When I read they had executive directors, then executive managers, general

managers, senior managers, managers, assistant managers and assistants to the managers before they got to the people who did the work, I knew it was a scam to enrich cadres. Even people who know nothing about business can see the problem right there. Innumerable layers of the highest paid post grades all doing a job one manager should do! But Hlaudi was Zuma's favourite..."

"And didn't that uneducated pretender pay himself a fortune!" interrupted Jon the Joker. "But what about the grand scam to confiscate the medical profession?"

"I am getting to that," retorted Irene icily. "Nothing makes the case clearer than the experience of Dr Eugene Brink, who did inspection visits at two hospitals in the same town on behalf of Afriforum. One a private hospital and the other a government institution. Dr Brink reported his team's findings on Politicsweb."

"At the private hospital, security staff took them directly to the right people and a manager gave them a comprehensive tour of the facility. They had nothing to hide and the staff were courteous and knowledgeable. Everything was impeccably maintained and clean. Patients spoken to,

OPINION

ON THE CONTRARY



Pieter Schoombee

were happy with their treatment there.

"The CEO identified a few problems, similar to what the team had encountered elsewhere. For instance, they had applied in 2017 for permission to expand so that they could provide more beds and specialist services. The land had been purchased and the hospital was willing to carry the risk. An obvious demand existed then and is growing. But to this day, government is dragging its feet and nothing is happening."

"In the meantime, they have to carry the extra burden when staff at the government

Continued on P27

Some news doesn't get headlines

THESE days, most people read daily newspapers from habit rather than need headlines. It just needs a questioning reader.

Newspaper headlines may get a cursory glance, before turning to the crossword, the puzzles, the stocks and shares, the weather report (maybe) and possibly the sports pages. Few read the editorial comment and opinion items.

That said, valuable things can still be learned from the daily newspapers, the small advertisements – the jobs and property pages. Reading them carefully can all give valuable insights into what is happening in Cape Town.

Property for sale advertisements are a good example. They can reflect the mood of local homeowners and ratepayers upon whose hard-earned money the City and its army of bureaucrats the City depends.

These days it is not a pretty picture. There seem to be too many for-sale notices for homes in the best suburbs – Constan-

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN



Keith Bryer

tia, Claremont, Rondebosch, Kenilworth, Mowbray, Newlands. Prices are high but few get what they want. Most sellers take months to find a buyer. The same houses appear again and again.

Real estate agents say there is a property market slump. So, why are so many up-market homes for sale?

Are sellers just hoping to make a killing? Are people downsizing to smaller, safer homes in gated villages? Are elderly home owners opting for fancy old age homes? Are they selling to emigrate with some cash in hand? Is crime driving sales, or is it our march towards a socialist state. Are homeowners fleeing to escape our increasingly racial politics? Or our heavy rates and utility costs of running a home, or all the above?

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